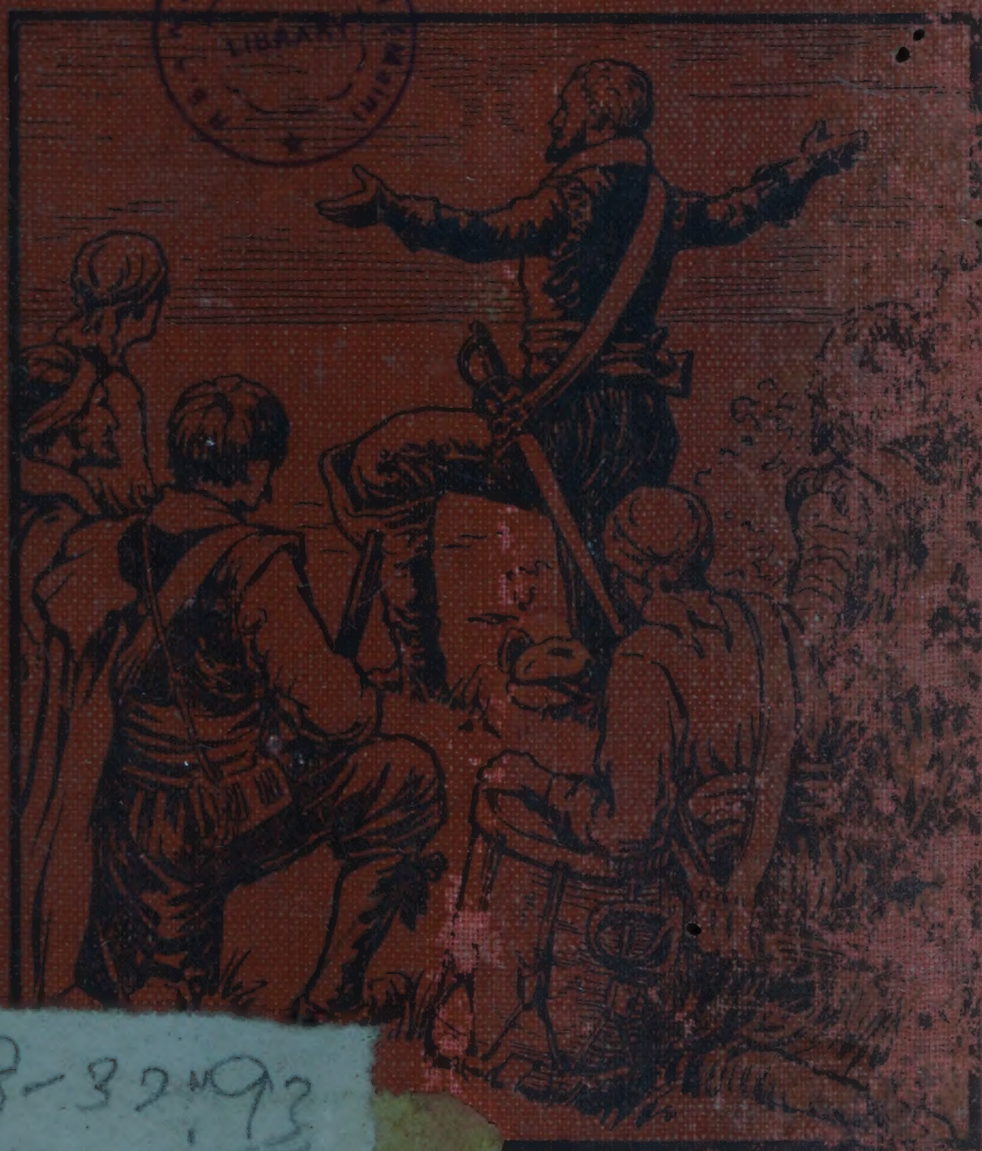


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St Augustine

A Briton

Alfred

Birth of Christ

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Richard I.

Joan of Arc

Mary, Queen of Scots

Pilgrim Father

Shakespeare

J.M. Robinson





ABRAHAM TELLS HIS FAMILY OF HIS INTENDED SEARCH.

I. BEFORE THE TIME OF CHRIST.

The Story of Abraham.

About fifteen hundred years before the birth of Christ there lived in the city of Ur, in the land of Chaldea, a man named Abraham.

In this town, which was near to the wide river Euphrates, the houses were made of bricks of many colours. The people made weapons for fighting and hunting, and they built boats for

fishing and for trade. They did not write on paper as we do, but wrote with a sharp point on bricks made of soft clay. They were also clever at arithmetic.



A CLAY BRICK SHOWING
WRITING OF ANCIENT TIMES.

(British Museum.)

They studied the times of the rising and setting of the sun, the moon and the stars, and looked upon them as gods. Among all those who dwelt in the city of Ur, Abraham alone knew that there was only one true God, whom he called Jehovah.

One day Jehovah said to him, "Get thee out of thy country and from thy people unto a land that I will show thee; and I will make of thee a great nation, a blessing to all the families of the earth."

This seemed strange to Abraham, for it meant that he must give up the settled life he was living in Ur for a wandering one. Such, however, was his trust in God that he did not think of disobeying the command. He spoke of it to his father, his wife Sarah, and his nephew Lot.

Then Abraham and his family and their servants (for they were rich people) took their sheep and cattle and camels, and went in search

of the new land. They journeyed north beside the river Euphrates, because there the land was more fertile.

They set out early in the morning, the herdsmen riding ahead to look for good pasture and water. Next came the slow-moving flocks of oxen, sheep, and goats. Then followed Abraham in his loose-flowing woollen robe, girt in with a brightly coloured girdle. Bound to his head by a piece of camel rope was a shawl which hung down on each side of his dark face. On his arms and ankles he wore gold rings, and in his hand was a long spear. With him rode Sarah and Lot, dressed in the same way.

At midday they made a halt, and then moved on slowly in the afternoon. As the evening sun was setting they halted again and pitched their tents. These tents were made of black goats' hair, supported on two poles with a flap in front as a shelter from the sun. The sides were fixed to the ground with ropes and pegs. Inside there were rugs and carpets to serve as beds.

Meanwhile the servants prepared a meal and the beasts were milked. After the meal they all fell asleep beneath the bright stars:

Abraham stayed there until the grass became too short for the oxen and too scanty for the

sheep, and then he gave orders to move to a fresh pasture-ground.

Next morning the herdsmen again rode on in front, looking for new grazing ground. Meanwhile the women and the servants pulled down and rolled up the tents, packed up the cooking pots, and followed the rest. Again they settled down in a fresh district until all the grass was eaten.

At length they came to a town called Haran and stayed there awhile. Then, after further wanderings, they reached the rushing river Jordan, and when they had crossed it they came to Canaan.

For some time Abraham lived here, moving from place to place as the cattle ate up all the grass. After a time the rain which usually fell did not come, and the grass and plants became dry and withered, and the water in the streams and rivers dried up. Abraham knew that if he stayed in Canaan he and his family and his cattle would starve.

He made up his mind that they must all go to Egypt, for there he was sure of getting food. Through Egypt flows the wide river Nile, which overflows its banks towards the end of every summer. The fields on each side of the river are then flooded for some weeks.



RAISING WATER IN EGYPT TO-DAY AND 1,500 YEARS AGO. (Note the similarity.)

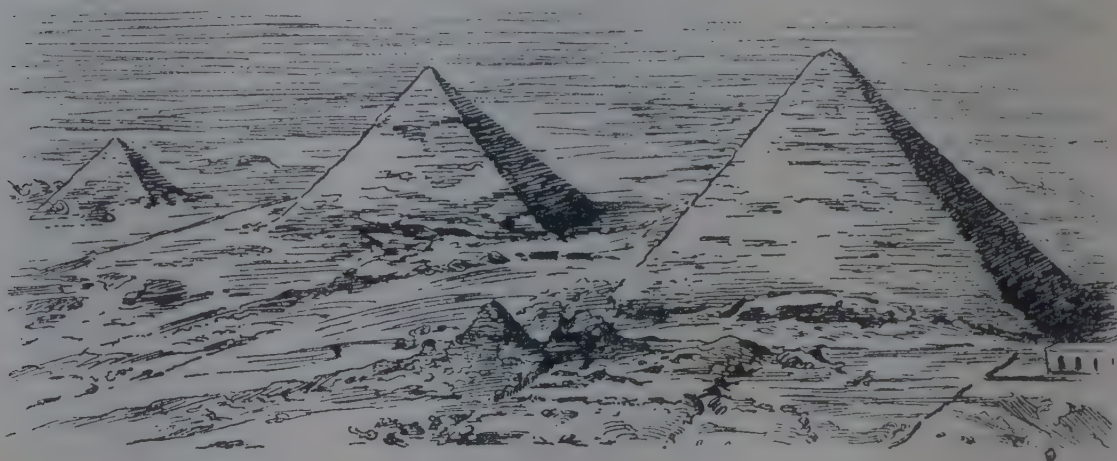
(Drawn from a photo and from an Egyptian wall painting.)

The Egyptian farmers dug deep ditches from the river through their fields and then constructed other ditches across, so that the ground was cut up into squares. The water was then lifted out of the river and put into the ditches, although this was not necessary at the time of floods. In this way, though it seldom rained in Egypt, the soil was always moist enough to grow all the wheat and barley which the Egyptians needed. Abraham, therefore, went to Egypt and there found food in plenty.

Abraham was astonished at the great palaces of the Egyptian kings, or Pharaohs, and at the

wonderful cities on the banks of the Nile with their wide streets, beautiful gardens, and magnificent temples.

The great Pyramids also caused him to wonder. They were built of very large blocks



THE GREAT PYRAMIDS.

of stone brought from a place five hundred miles away, and it had taken twenty years for thousands of men to build one of them. Inside each Pyramid there were halls and passages, and in the innermost room lay the body of one of the Egyptian kings.

Abraham also saw the great statue of the Sphinx, which can be seen in Egypt to this day. The body is like that of a lion crouching on the ground, with its huge paws stretched out. Instead of the face being that of a lion it is that of a wise man, slightly smiling as though

he is amused at something. The head is covered with an Egyptian headdress carved in stone.

Abraham noticed that the Egyptians wore linen clothes and many costly ornaments, and that they delighted in music, singing, and dancing.

In the course of time Abraham returned to Canaan. One day news came to him that his herdsmen and those of Lot were quarrelling because there was not enough grass for both their herds of cattle. Then Abraham and Lot climbed a high hill from which they could see the hills of Judæa and the fertile valley of the river Jordan. He asked Lot to choose the land in which he would like to live. Lot chose the Jordan valley, so Abraham pitched his tent among the hills of Judæa.

One day when Abraham and Sarah were resting in their tent under the trees three strangers drew near. Abraham, as his custom was, ran to meet them and begged them to stay. He ordered his servants to bring water so that they could wash the sand from their



THE SPHINX.

feet. Then he went into the tent and asked Sarah to make cakes for them, and to cook the little calf that he had killed.

When these were ready he took them, with butter and milk, and waited on the strangers. Abraham was astonished to learn that they were not men, but angels sent by God to tell him that Sarah his wife should have a son. When he heard this he was very glad, because he knew that in this way God would carry out the promise which He had made to him before he set out from Ur—"I will make of thee a great nation."

A little later Sarah had a son whom Abraham called Isaac. The descendants of Abraham were called the Jews. For many hundred years they lived in the land of Judæa in which Abraham had settled.

Date to Remember.

Abraham lived . . . about 1500 or 1400 B.C.

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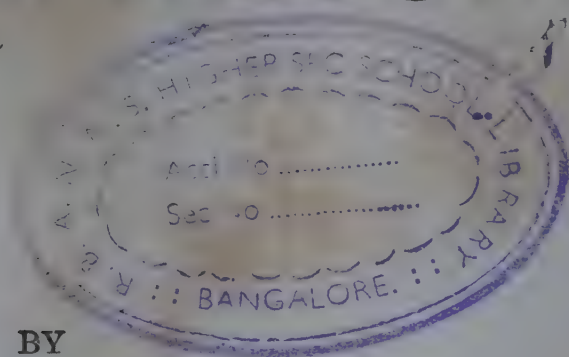
General Editor—G. S. MAXTON, M.A.

MAKERS OF HISTORY

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PREFACE

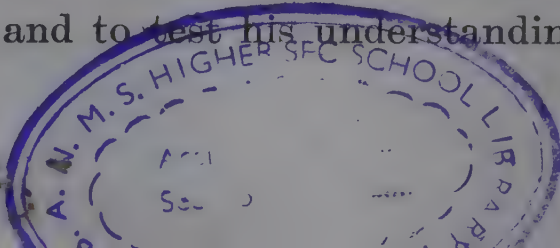
THIS volume of the "March of History" series forms a bridge between the stage when history stories alone satisfy the needs of young children and that when systematic study of "periodic" history is begun.

The book is necessarily simple in matter and treatment but wide in scope. The appeal is mainly biographical and the personages selected are of all epochs and of many lands. Biblical and classical figures; romantic heroes of medieval times; great adventurers and explorers, and other quieter but no less important personages are given. Nevertheless, while world history has been drawn upon, the great figures in the story of our own country find a major place.

As the contents list indicates, all the narratives are grouped in appropriate chronological periods. Not only is the child's time sense thus, tentatively at least, developed but he is enabled to absorb the characteristics of the different periods in the world's story. The social aspect of history has ever been kept in view, and interwoven in the stories are details of the work and play, manners and customs of people of past ages.

An effort is made to create historical atmosphere by reproducing, wherever possible, contemporary illustrations. Moreover, the questions and exercises are specially designed to foster the pupil's constructive and expressive powers, and to test his understanding of his reading.

G. S. M.





Romulus, Remus, and Rome.

Many years after Abraham had died, and about seven hundred and fifty years before the birth of Christ, there reigned in what is now called Italy a wicked king, by name Amulius. He took the kingdom from his elder brother Numitor, whose sons he killed.

A story is told that when the cruel king knew that Numitor's daughter had twin sons, he ordered that she should be imprisoned and that the babies should be thrown into the river Tiber. The king's servant put the baby boys into a basket and flung it into the river. But the basket was washed ashore, and the boys were not drowned as the king had hoped they would be. Soon the boys grew hungry and began to cry. A she-wolf came down to the

river to look at them, and carried them off to her cave. There she fed them, and licked them clean with her tongue.

One day a herdsman saw the wolf with the children and he carried them off to his wife, who named them Romulus and Remus. When the boys grew older they led the young herdsman in all their games and in all their quarrels with other herdsman.

One day, however, Numitor's herdsman captured Remus and carried him off to their master. Numitor looked at him and, seeing that he carried himself proudly like a prince, asked him who he was. Remus told him the story of the wolf that had looked after him and his twin brother when they were babies. Numitor then asked Remus how old he was, and when he had told his age, Numitor was sure that Remus was his long-lost grandson. Great was their happiness.

Together Romulus and Remus captured and killed the wicked king Amulius and made their grandfather Numitor king. They released their mother from prison.

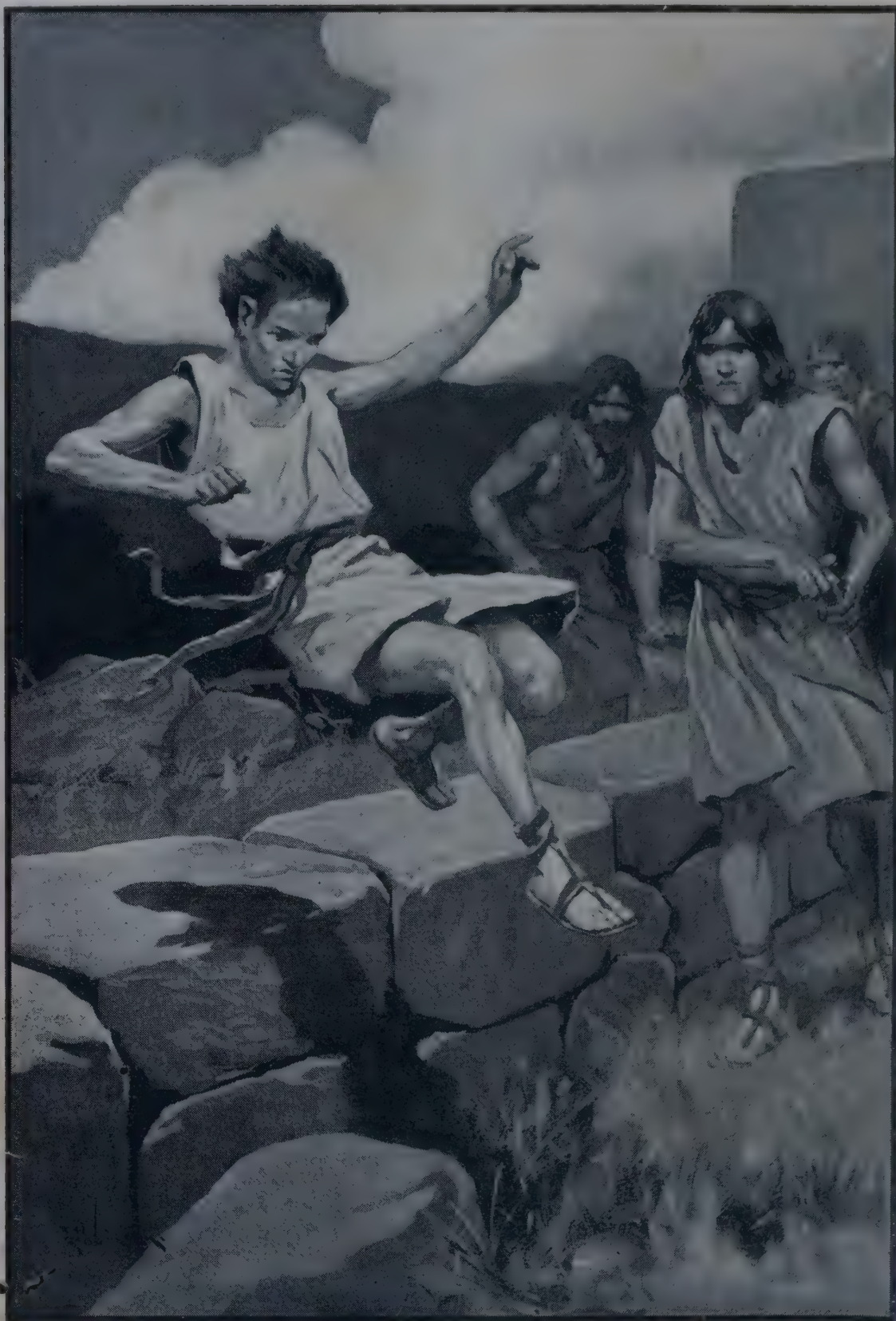
Now the two brothers wished to build a city of their own at the place where they had lived as herdsman. When they reached the spot they could not agree as to where it should be built.

Romulus wished to build it on a hill called the Palatine Hill, and Remus on one called the Aventine Hill. Not knowing how to settle their dispute, they called upon the gods to decide for them, as the custom was in those days.

Romulus stood on the top of the hill he had chosen and Remus on the top of the Aventine Hill, and they waited for a sign from the gods. All day long nothing happened, and all night they waited in vain. Then, just as the dawn was breaking, Remus saw six vultures fly across the sky. These birds were sacred to the gods.

Swiftly Remus sent a messenger to tell his brother of the good omen, but while Remus's friends were hailing him as king, Romulus cried out in joy that he had seen twelve vultures flying. Which had won? Remus had seen the birds of good omen first, but Romulus had seen twice as many. The gods had not clearly decided between the two brothers.

Romulus, however, made up his mind that he would build a city on the Palatine Hill, and he chose a feast day to begin his task. First a hole was dug on the spot which would be the centre of the city when it was built. Into this hole he threw the first-fruits of the earth — corn and fruit. Then each of the



"THAT IS WHAT YOUR ENEMIES WILL DO!"
(Drawn by T. Heath Robinson.)

shepherds threw in a handful of earth brought from his home and the hole was filled. On the top of it an altar was built, and this was to be the hearth, or centre, of the new city.

Romulus then put on his toga, a loose, long woollen garment, and took a white bull and a cow and yoked them to a plough. With this he made a furrow to mark the boundary of the city. After this Romulus ordered his men to begin to build the wall.

Remus did not like that his brother should be more important than he was and that he should be building a city. One day he stood by while the men were busy building the walls and then, with anger in his heart, he jumped over the wall, saying, "That is what your enemies will do."

"And this is the way they will fare," answered Romulus, and struck his brother dead.

So Romulus built his city and gave his name to it, which to this day is called Rome. Rome is the capital of Italy.

Date for Reference.

Rome founded 753 B.C.



Horatius Saves Rome.

About two hundred years after the death of Romulus a very bad king, whose name was Tarquin, ruled in Rome. The people called him Tarquin "the Proud," because he was rude to the rich and cruel to the poor. At last the Romans could bear his bad rule no longer, and under the leadership of Brutus, the son of a rich Roman, they drove him out of the city.

Then the Romans decided that they would never again have a king to rule over them. Every year they chose two men to rule them, and they called them consuls. One of the first consuls was Brutus.

Shortly after Brutus was made consul news was brought to him that some of the Romans were planning to make Tarquin king again, and that among them were his two sons. Brutus, though he dearly loved his sons, loved Rome

still more, and he ordered that they should be put to death because they had plotted against the happiness of their fellow-citizens.

Tarquin then persuaded Lars Porsena, the king of a city some miles away from Rome, to help him to conquer the Romans. One day the Romans saw from the hill on which their city was built that flames were leaping high against the sky. Tarquin and Lars Porsena were burning the villages. The villagers seized their goods and fled with all speed to Rome in the hope that they might be safe behind the city wall.

The Romans very quickly saw that their only chance of safety lay in preventing Tarquin from entering the town. Between Tarquin and Rome flowed the river Tiber, over which there was only one narrow bridge, a wooden one, which led into the middle of the town.

The consul gave orders that the bridge should be cut down, but it quickly became clear that, unless they were stopped, Tarquin and his army would be across the bridge and in the city before it could be cut down.

At this moment a brave Roman, Horatius by name, offered to stand on the side of the bridge farthest from Rome and fight Tarquin's men, so that they could not cross the bridge. Two other Romans, Spurius Lartius and Herminius, agreed

to fight beside him. The bridge was only wide enough for three men to stand abreast on it.

The enemy reached the river Tiber and saw the three heroes waiting to do battle. Three of the leaders of the invading army pressed forward against Horatius and his two friends. There was a fierce fight and the three lay dead. Three more took their places, and so the uneven fight went on.

All this time the Romans were busy at the end of the bridge nearest Rome hacking at it so as to cut it down. At last they raised a cry to warn the three champions that the bridge was just about to fall into the Tiber. Spurius Lartius and Herminius darted back, but Horatius remained there, keeping the foe at bay.

The bridge fell into the water. All expected Horatius to yield up his sword to the invaders. Instead, he plunged into the Tiber.

For a moment friend and foe held their breaths. Then they saw him swimming towards the Roman shore, and all shouted with pride at the gallant feat. They watched as he made his slow way across the stream, weighed down with his armour and wounded in the long fight with his foes.

Great was the welcome he received when he reached the Roman bank, for he and his two

companions, by preventing the army of Lars Porsena from crossing the bridge, had saved the Romans. In reward they gave him, not money, but as much land as a yoke of oxen could plough in a day.

Lord Macaulay wrote a long poem about Horatius of which these are two of the verses:

“ ‘Hew down the bridge, Sir Consul,
 With all the speed ye may :
 I, with two men to help me,
 Will hold the foe in play.
 In yon straight path a thousand
 May well be stopped by three.
 Now who will stand on either hand
 And keep the bridge with me?’ ”

“ ‘Then out spake Spurius Lartius,
 A Ramnian proud was he :
 ‘Lo ! I will stand at thy right hand
 And keep the bridge with thee.’
 And out spake strong Herminius,
 Of Titian blood was he :
 ‘I will abide on thy left side
 And keep the bridge with thee.’ ”

Date for Reference.

Horatius saved Rome 508 B.C.

Cleon, a Boy of Athens.

Cleon was a little Greek boy, and when he was born his father and mother hung an olive wreath outside the door of their house in the city of Athens. This was to show that they were pleased to have a little son.

Until Cleon was seven years old his mother looked after him. She gave him tops, and go-carts, and hoops, and showed him how to cut toy frogs, and to build mud castles.

His parents were rich folks, and when Cleon was old enough they found a man to look after him, to take him to school and bring him home again, and to see that no harm came to him by the way.

At the day-school Cleon learnt to write. He did this by scratching the letters with a sharp steel point through the wax which covered a wooden tablet. He was also taught to count in tens and hundreds on the counting-board. When he knew how to read he next learnt by heart hundreds of lines of verse, from a poem called the Iliad. This poem tells the story of how the Greeks captured the city of Troy after a siege of ten years. Another poem which he learnt was the Odyssey, which tells of the wanderings and hair-breadth escapes

of a hero named Odysseus, on his way back from the siege of Troy.

Like all other boys of Athens, Cleon was



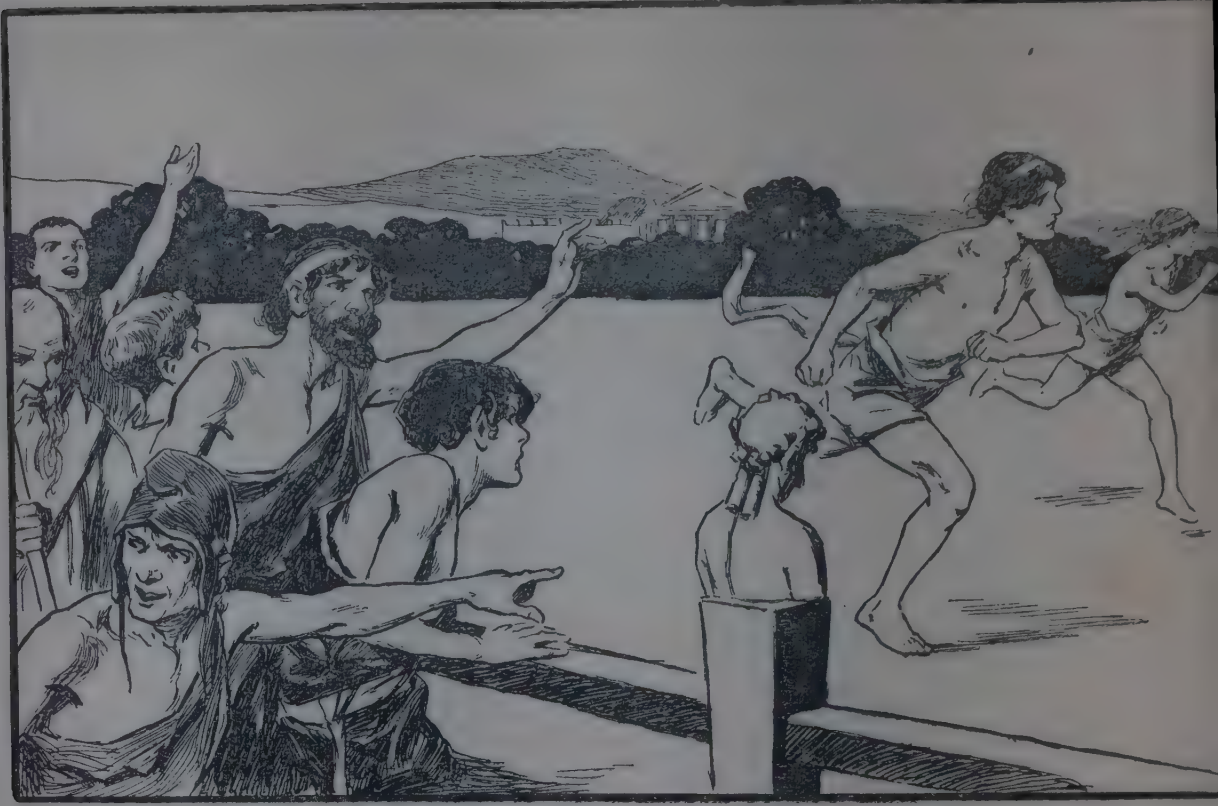
AN ATHENIAN SCHOOL.

One pupil is being taught the lyre, another is reciting.
(From a vase painting.)

shown how to play a kind of harp called a lyre. Every Athenian gentleman was expected to play on the lyre and to sing a song after dinner.

At fourteen Cleon left school, but he had not finished his education. He went to listen to lectures given by the most learned men in Greece.

At other times Cleon went to the wrestling school which lay out in the plain on the western side of Athens. Here he and his companions were taught how to run, jump, throw the quoit—which was a flat ring of metal—aim the spear, and wrestle.



A FOOT-RACE

(Drawn

As a great favour Cleon was taken by his father to see the Olympic Games, which took place every four years at a place called Olympia. Cleon was much interested in seeing the different kinds of people as he travelled from Athens to Olympia, for men from all over Greece came to see this great event. During the period of the games causes of quarrelling between different parts of Greece were set aside and forgotten, so that Greeks from far and near might go without harm to Olympia.

On the first day Cleon was present when the



OLYMPIC GAMES.
(after Robinson.)

judges drew lots to decide who were to be placed in each heat.

On the second day Cleon was greatly pleased to see the sports for boys. Their sports were the same as those for the men, except that the harder form of wrestling was left out.

The third day's events were more interesting to Cleon's father, for on that day the men's sports began. The race-course was crowded with onlookers when the stewards, dressed in purple robes and carrying branches in their hands, made their way to the end of it and

seated themselves beneath a gaily coloured awning.

The first event was the sprint of two hundred yards. The runners stood ready, the steward shouted "Away!" and they leapt forward, shouting as they ran. They raised such a cloud of dust that sometimes it was difficult to see who was the winner of the "heat." All the "heats" were run off, and then the final race caused great excitement, for each onlooker wanted a man from his city to win.

The sprint was followed by a race of two hundred yards and back. After this a long race took place. For this the runners kept a steady stride, elbows well in to their sides.

On the fourth day Cleon went to see what was known as the Pentathlon, a five tests championship. These tests were the long jump, the throwing of the quoit, the sprint, the wrestling match and the javelin throwing. Whoever won most events was declared the victor.

The other event of the fourth day was the chariot race, which took place on a special race-course called the Hippodrome. The chariots had to be driven twelve times round the two turning-posts before the race was won.

On the last day, the fifth day of the games, each of the victors was crowned by the stewards of the games with a crown of wild olives. Cleon's father told him that when each of the victors returned home his whole city would turn out to greet him. Statues in honour of him would be made and poets would sing his praises.

At the age of eighteen Cleon came before the five hundred chief men of Athens. He had to show that his father was a citizen of Athens, and that he himself was strong of body; he was then allowed to become a citizen also. After that he began a two years' course of training as a soldier. He put on his uniform, a short, dull-brown riding-cape, the ends of which hung down in a point before and behind, and a broad-brimmed felt hat, usually slung at the back of the neck.

Cleon in this uniform went to a temple on the Acropolis, the hill that overlooked Athens, and took a solemn vow. "I will not disgrace my weapons nor desert the comrade who is placed at my side. I will leave my country greater and better than I found it. I will honour the temples and the religion which my forefathers established."

Cleon then went to live in the barracks,

where he took his meals with the other young soldiers and drilled in full uniform. These youths of eighteen played many games together, and they spent much time in swimming, rowing and riding. The great day of the year was that on which the Torch Races took place. Some of these were run singly by youths carrying lighted torches all the way, some by teams who carried the lighted torches and then handed them to others.

At the end of the first year each of the youths received a shield and a spear from the State. They were then made up into parties and sent out for a year, sometimes as guards and sometimes as garrisons for forts and outposts on the borders of the country.

When the two years' training was over Cleon went back to his home. When it was his turn, he helped with others to decide in law cases. He attended the meetings of the Assembly to which all Athenian citizens were called when some important matter had to be settled. When he was chosen, he served on the Council for the State, or acted for a year as one of the ten judges who ruled the city. He had nothing to make him busy otherwise, and therefore had plenty of time to serve his country.

The Invasions of Julius Cæsar.

Fifty-five years before Christ was born, Julius Cæsar, the greatest of all the Roman generals, came over to Britain. One midnight in August he and his soldiers set sail from Boulogne in France, which was then called Gaul. They had already spent some years conquering Gaul.

A storm arose that night and Cæsar's ships were divided. Not till the next afternoon did he and his men come close to the white chalk cliffs of Dover. As they looked up they saw that the cliffs were lined with British warriors. They were armed with spears and darts that they could use while the Romans were getting out of their ships and struggling up the beach and the cliffs. The Romans could see, too, the war chariots of the Britons.

Cæsar, therefore, gave orders that his sailors should row the vessels to a part of the shore where there were no cliffs. Even then some of the soldiers were unwilling to jump into the water in their heavy armour to face the foe.

"I, at least," shouted a standard-bearer in a loud voice, "will do my duty to the state and my commander. Leap, soldiers, unless you wish to betray your eagle to the enemy." With these words he leapt into the water, and the

soldiers leapt in after him. The standard was the image of an eagle made of bronze and fixed to the end of a pole. The Romans believed it to



A ROMAN EAGLE.

be a terrible disgrace to lose their eagle.

The Roman soldiers were armed with long spears and with short swords. They wore

helmets and carried strong shields. Armour made of bronze or iron covered the top half of their body. They were very well drilled.

The Britons, on the contrary, had only spears and darts, no armour to protect them, and though they were very brave, they had not the training of the Roman troops. They, therefore, were driven off the beach and next day came to ask for terms.

There were other small battles, but in less than three weeks Cæsar was back again in Gaul. He had defeated the Britons who lived in the south-east corner of the island, but he had not conquered Britain.

Next year he came again. This time he crossed the Thames, captured the chief town of the British chief, Cassivelaunus, took prisoners, and fixed a sum of money to be paid to him by the Britons. He then returned to Gaul, and for the rest of his life was too busy to visit Britain again.

II. AFTER CHRIST—EARLY BRITAIN.

What the Romans Did.

For nearly a hundred years the Romans did not again attempt to invade Britain. During this period the Britons went on living as before. They dwelt together in tribes, the huts of the whole tribe being built close to each other. Most of them spent their time in growing food and in fighting. They made for themselves bracelets of gold and bronze, and they dressed in woollen clothes, dyed red or blue. The Britons in the south were more civilised than the rest, and they sold corn, cattle, skins, and slaves to traders who came over from Gaul. From these traders they bought glass and pottery.



A BRITON.

About the end of the hundred years, that is forty-three years after the birth of Christ, the Roman emperor Claudius gave orders that Britain should be added to the Roman Empire.



The Romans already ruled over Gaul, all the southern part of Europe, Asia-Minor, Palestine, and northern Africa. The Britons did not wish to be conquered and to form part of this vast Empire, but though they fought bravely under Caratacus and Boadicea (the latter a warrior queen who poisoned herself sooner than yield to the Romans), they were at last conquered.

The Romans were far more civilised than the Britons. They set to work to do in Britain what they did in all parts of their Empire. They made very good straight roads so that, if need arose, their soldiers could march swiftly from place to place. The Britons had made only

rough tracks. Even to-day in some parts of England there are roads that the Romans made. Not until about a hundred years ago were the roads again as good as they were when the Romans lived in Britain.

At certain places along these roads the Romans made camps for their soldiers. The Latin word for camp was *castra*, which is the same word as our *cester* or *chester*. Those towns in England which have a name with "cester," "chester," or "caster" in it are towns which stand where a Roman camp or town once stood. Examples of such towns are Chester, Gloucester, Chichester, Cirencester, Lancaster.

The camps were all much alike. All round the camp was a ditch, on the inner side of which they made a bank with the earth that they dug out. In these banks were four gateways, from each of which a road led into the centre of the camp.

The Romans built towns on the same plan, but they made a wall round the town instead of throwing up a bank of earth. Some towns in England, such as York and Lincoln, still have remains of their Roman walls.

In the centre of the town was an open space, called the Forum or market-place. Around the Forum were the shops. Along one side of the

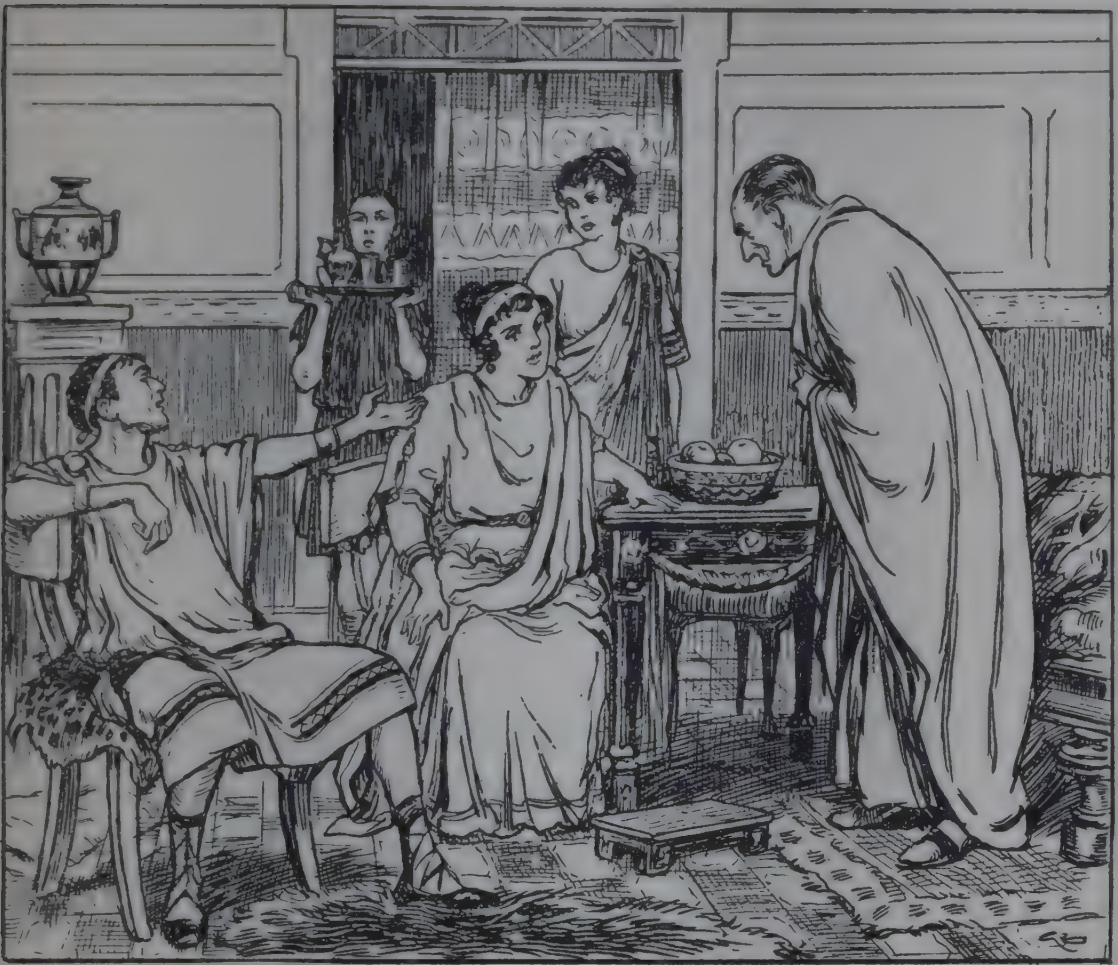
Forum was the Basilica, a public hall where the merchants met to do business. At one end of it sat a judge to hear law cases.

In some of the towns there were Christian churches. No one knows how the story of Christ was first brought to Britain, but within two hundred years of Christ's death some of the Romans in Britain and some of the Britons were Christians.

The streets of the town were straight, and bordering the streets were the houses, each of which had a courtyard. The inside walls of the houses were plastered and then painted in bright colours. The floors were made of little bits of stone of different colours, laid down to form a pattern. This was called mosaic work. There was glass in the windows. The whole house was warmed by air heated by a furnace in a cellar underneath.

The Romans considered it very important to be clean, and they built public baths in every town. Most houses also had baths. One of these was a cold bath which was big enough for a man to swim a few strokes in, another a bath for hot water, and a third for very hot water.

A Roman man or woman, when indoors, wore a long loose tunic hanging from the shoulders



A ROMAN FAMILY.

down to the feet. When a well-born Roman went out he put on his toga, a white woollen wrap cut in a half-circle, which reached down to the feet. If he were a magistrate, this toga had a purple border.

The Britons were at first astonished when they saw the Romans make these wonderful roads, camps, and cities with their fine buildings and their comfortable houses. Then they did their best to copy Roman customs and

to speak Latin, which was the language the Romans used.

For three hundred and fifty years the Romans lived in Britain. Then they had to go back to their own country because it was being attacked by fierce tribes from the north. The Romans could not save their country. It was taken from them and then no more beautiful Roman towns were built, with smooth roads joining one to another, for the tribes did not know how to make roads and beautiful houses.

For a little while the Britons tried to live as they had lived while the Romans were in their country. But they quickly found that they could not defend themselves against the Picts, the Scots, and the English who began to attack them.

Dates to Remember.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Julius Cæsar's invasions of Britain . . . | 55, 54 B.C. |
| The Roman conquest of Britain began . . . | A.D. 43 |
| The Romans left Britain . . . | about A.D. 410 |



A ROMAN GALLEY

The Coming of the English.

All this time England was not called England. It was called Britain. In those days the English did not live in England, but in northern Germany. This is the story of how the English, or Angles, left Germany and came to Britain, and why its name was changed to England (Angleland).

On the shores of northern Germany there lived three peoples, the Angles, the Saxons, and the Jutes, who were very like each other. They were tall, fierce men with golden hair and blue eyes, and fighting was what they liked best. They did not have one king to rule over them, but each tribe had its own chief.

When a chief went into battle he put on armour made of scales of metal and a helmet inlaid with gold. He fought with sword and spear and carried a wooden shield covered with leather and strengthened in the centre with an iron knob. The chief's followers were men who had chosen to serve him because of his well-known bravery. They would have thought it cowardly not to stand by him to the death in a fight.

When the battle was over, the chiefs and their followers loved to feast while they listened to the minstrels singing of the great deeds of the men of old.

These men had never heard of Jesus Christ. They worshipped gods thought to be fierce like themselves. The father of these gods they called 'Woden. He, they believed, dwelt in Valhalla, or



AN OLD PICTURE SHOWING A CHIEF FEASTING WITH HIS FOLLOWERS.

(*Cotton MS.*)

heaven, to which he welcomed the brave warriors slain in war. Even now we call Wednesday (Woden's day) after him. Thor, their god of war, has given his name to Thursday.

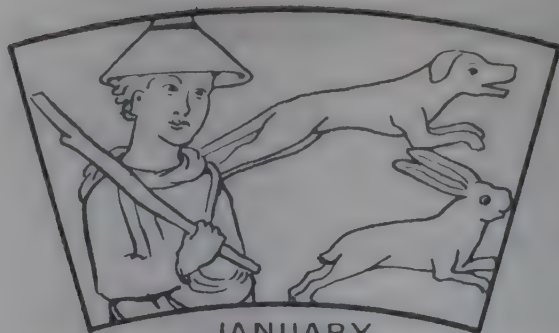
Northern Germany, where they lived, had a poor soil, so that people could not grow good crops there. Because of this many of these warriors went to sea to plunder other lands.

After the Romans left Britain the Britons were attacked by fierce tribes of Picts from Scotland and by Scots from Ireland. Though the Britons fought bravely they could not keep them out. Vortigern, a king of south-east Britain, invited two of the leaders of the Jutes, named Hengist and Horsa, to help him against the Picts and Scots.

The two leaders landed at Ebbsfleet in Thanet in Kent and drove back the Picts and Scots. Soon Vortigern was very sorry that he had asked their help, for when Hengist and Horsa saw that Britain was a better land than their own, they made up their minds to settle down in it themselves. They sent messages to their friends in northern Germany to come and settle too. The Britons tried to drive them away, but they could not, for boat-load after boat-load of these fierce warriors came over.

For a hundred and fifty years the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes fought against the Britons. In the end the Britons were driven into the hilly parts of Westmorland and Cumberland, and into Wales and Cornwall, while some crossed the sea and went to live on the western coast of France in a part which came to be called Brittany. The people who live there to-day are the descendants of the Britons.

The Angles settled in Norfolk and Suffolk, which we still call East Anglia, and in Northumbria, which then meant all the north of England except Cumberland and Westmorland. The Saxons dwelt in Essex (East Saxons), Sussex (South Saxons), Middlesex (Middle Saxons), and Wessex (West Saxons), in which were Surrey, Hampshire, Dorset, Somerset, and most of



JANUARY



JULY



AUGUST



OCTOBER

PLAN OF VILLAGE SHOWING THREE-FIELD SYSTEM.

Decorations (top and bottom) from an old circular calendar.

(In Anglo-Saxon times there was no manor-house or demesne. These appeared later.)

Devonshire. The Jutes made their homes in Kent and in the Isle of Wight.

The newcomers did not choose to live in the towns that the Romans had built. Often they burnt them after they captured them from the Britons. They had not lived in towns in Germany, and in England they chose to live in the open country, each family settling down and making a little village. They called a village a "ton" or a "ham," meaning a town or a home. When a town or village has a name ending with "ton" or "ham," like Wallington or Birmingham, we may guess that an English family settled there in olden times.

Though the English had been sea-rovers and fighters, after they had conquered England they became farmers. Outside each village there were three big fields. In one of these the villagers sowed wheat for bread, in another barley for beer, but the third they left untilled. Every year one field was given a rest, so that the wheat should grow better in it the next year.

The fields were divided into strips, each strip marked off from the next by a narrow path of grass, called a balk. Each family in the village had land in each of the fields, but the strips they had in each field were not close together. They had some strips where the soil was good and

others where it was poor, so that there should be no cause for quarrel amongst the villagers.

In the winter the villagers went to plough with their wooden ploughs drawn by oxen. In the spring they scattered their seeds by hand. In July they cut the hay with scythes. In August they harvested the corn, and in the winter they thrashed it with long flails.

Near the stream which flowed through the village there was a big meadow in which all the cows and oxen belonging to the villagers grazed in charge of a cowherd. Farther away from the village was some poor land, called the common, where the shepherd tended all the sheep. There, also, a swineherd looked after the pigs while they ate the acorns from the oak-trees and the beech-mast. All the animals were marked so that their owners could know them.

The villagers lived on corn, milk, meat, and beer. They used the leather made from the skins of the cattle and pigs. The women made up the wool shorn from the sheep into woollen cloth. Out of this they made loose flowing robes for themselves, and shirts, breeches, and tunics for the men.

Date for Reference.

Coming of the English . . . About A.D. 449.

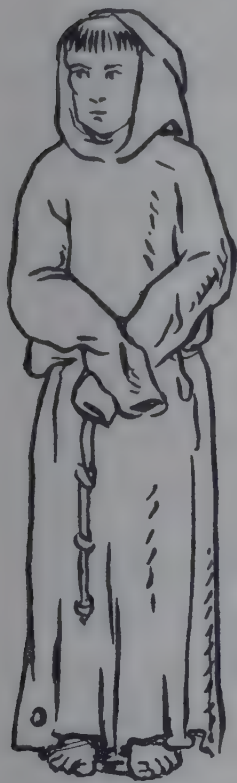
The English become Christians.

More than a hundred years after the English first came to Britain there lived in Rome a holy man called Gregory. One day when he was walking in the market-place he saw some little fair-haired boys with blue eyes. He went close to look at them, for he was used to seeing Italian boys who had brown eyes and black hair. He found out that they were for sale as slaves. He asked their owner who they were, and was told that they were Angles from England. "Not Angles, but angels," he replied, looking at their fair faces. When he learnt that these fair-haired boys and the English were not Christians he was very sad.

A few days afterwards he went to the Pope, as the Bishop of Rome was called, to ask if he might go to England to tell the English the story of Christ. The Pope agreed, and Gregory and a few companions set out without telling anyone where they were going. He had left Rome only three days when there came hurrying after him messengers from the Pope, telling him that he must go back to the city of Rome because the people needed him very much.

A little while later Gregory himself became Pope, but he did not forget about the English

slave boys. He chose a priest named Augustine, and sent him with forty monks to preach the Gospel in England.



A MONK.

(From a MS. of
Matthew Paris.)

It was a long and difficult journey for Augustine through Italy and France. He and his followers feared that the heathen English might kill them, so they sent a letter back to Gregory, asking him to allow them to return to Rome. Gregory replied that they must go on.

They crossed the English Channel and landed in Thanet, where the Jutes had first landed. Augustine then sent on messengers to say to Ethelbert, King of Kent, that he had come from Rome to bring to the king tidings of the true God. Ethelbert already knew a little about Christianity, for he had married a French princess, Bertha, who was a Christian. After some thought he replied that he would listen to what Augustine had to say.

Augustine and his monks then set out from Thanet for Canterbury, where King Ethelbert lived. When they came near, they saw the king seated under an oak out in the open air, for he was afraid that the newcomers might cast spells

upon him if he met them indoors. First came a monk carrying a cross, then others in their brown robes singing in Latin a hymn to Christ. Last of all came Augustine.

Ethelbert was much astonished at the story that Augustine had to tell of Christ. His gods were always thought to be fierce gods who gloried in battles. When Augustine had finished speaking, Ethelbert said that he could not make up his mind about the new religion at once, but he allowed Augustine and his monks to live in Canterbury and to preach there in the church of St. Martin, which had been in ruins since the time that the Romans left Britain.

At length King Ethelbert, seeing the good life of Augustine and his monks and having listened to their sermons, became a Christian, and many of his people followed his example. Augustine was made a bishop, and the Pope put him in charge of the English Christians.

Twenty-eight years later Ethelberga, the daughter of Ethelbert and Bertha, was married to Edwin, King of Northumbria, and there went north with her a Christian priest named Paulinus.

For some time Edwin was unwilling to become a Christian, but at length he called a

council of his chief men. The high priest of the heathen gods said that the gods he worshipped did nothing for him.

One of the king's chief men said, "The present life of man, O King, seems to me to be like to the swift flight of a sparrow through the room wherein you sit at supper in winter, with a good fire in the midst while the storm of rain and snow rages outside; the sparrow, I say, flying in at one door and immediately out at another, is (whilst he is within) safe from the wintry storm, but after a space of fair weather he immediately vanishes out of your sight into the dark winter from which he has come. So this life of man appears for a short space, but of what went before and of what is to follow we know nothing. If, therefore, this new teaching can tell us more it ought truly to be followed."

The council agreed to this; the high priest burnt the heathen temple and Edwin and his people were baptised.

A little later a heathen king killed Edwin. Paulinus fled to Kent, and the men of Northumbria ceased to be Christians. Some time afterwards, however, a new King of Northumbria, Oswald, sent for a monk from Iona, an island off the west coast of Scotland, to preach

Christianity to his people. This monk returned to the abbot of the monastery at Iona and said that the Northumbrians were hard-hearted and would not listen to him.

A gentle monk called Aidan, sitting by, said, "Did you try to give them the meat of the Gospel when they were ready only for the milk?"

The abbot turned to Aidan and said that he should go next. Aidan went to Lindisfarne, or Holy Island, off the coast of Northumbria, where he built a monastery. He taught the people about Christ, and lived so simply and so kindly that they were led to become Christians.



A CAPITAL LETTER DRAWN
BY A MONK OF LINDISFARNE.

In course of time all the English people gave up the worship of heathen gods and became Christians. Then they began to build churches in which to worship the true God. Some of the churches they built can still be seen.

Date to Remember.

Augustine brought Christianity to England

597

The Story of Alfred the Great.

In the year 849 after the birth of Christ there was born at Wantage in Berkshire a prince named Alfred, the youngest son of the King of Wessex, who ruled over the southern part of England.

Alfred's mother used to read to him and his brothers from a book that had been written by hand by monks, as were all the books at that time. Alfred loved the book because it had beautiful paintings in it, and because all the capital letters were brightly coloured.

One day his mother promised that she would give the book to whichever of her sons should first be able to read it. The elder brothers wanted the book, but they were too lazy to learn to read. They said to one another that princes should be able to fight and hunt, and that reading should be left to the monks. Alfred wanted to be able to fight, but he also wished to be able to read so that he could find out all that he longed to know. He therefore worked hard and won the book by reading it to his mother.

As Alfred grew older he often heard his father and mother talk of the Danes, or Northmen, and he wondered who these peoples were. One day

he asked his father, who told him that they were brave warriors who had first come across the sea from Norway and Denmark when he himself was a small boy. He added that the boats of the Vikings, as they were sometimes called, were about seventy-five feet long, fifteen feet wide, and about three and a half feet deep. Each carried from forty to sixty men, a third of whom at a time would be working at the oars. They had a steersman too who guided the boat with an oar. The bow and stern of the boats were pointed, and the bow was carved into the form of a swan or dragon. The Vikings hoisted a sail when the wind would help them, and then they rested from rowing and hung their yellow and black shields over the sides of the ship.

When the Vikings came near the shore they looked for a river mouth and rowed up the river. Then they landed, left their boats in charge of a few men, and grasping their great battle-axes and shields, and wearing steel caps with horns and steel shirts called byrnies, they overran the



A VIKING.



ALFRED WATCHES THE BUILDING OF HIS SHIPS. (See page 56.)

(Drawn by Gordon Browne.)

country-side. They terrified the English, who had settled down as farmers and were no longer the fierce warriors they had once been. They seized any horses they could find, rode to the nearest monastery, entered, and took the precious jewels and gold plate. Sometimes they killed the monks and burnt the monastery. After this they went back to their ships and sailed home.

Alfred thought it very strange that they should kill the holy monks, but his father explained that the Vikings were not Christians, but worshipped the same gods that the English had once worshipped. Alfred made up his mind that when he grew up he would fight the Danes and defeat them.

When Alfred was sixteen years old he learnt that the Danes had for the first time spent the winter in England instead of going back to their homes as usual. After this they stayed every year. The English could not prevent them from moving over nearly the whole of England as they liked. The only part of England that they had not overrun was Wessex, where Alfred lived. ✓

When Alfred was twenty-two the Danes made their first big attack on Wessex, over which Alfred's elder brother was ruling. The Danes

thought to win an easy victory. At first they were successful but later Alfred and his brother won a glorious victory, Alfred specially winning fame because he led the charge of the English as they dashed uphill against the Danes. Some weeks afterwards, however, Alfred's brother was killed. Alfred then became king and fought again that year, only to be defeated.

The Danes, however, were used to easy conquests and had not expected such a hard tussle. At the end of the year they made peace with Alfred, promising to leave Wessex alone.

Alfred guessed that they would not keep their promise for long, but that, as soon as they had conquered the rest of England, they would return to fight him. He thought that the best plan for fighting the Danes was to build a navy. This was the first time that an English king had thought of building a navy, and Alfred's navy proved very useful, for the sailors were sometimes able to prevent the Danes from landing, and sometimes they prevented food from being taken to them.

As Alfred expected, the Danes made another big attack seven years later, and so suddenly that he and his men had to flee into the marshy land near Athelney on the river Parret in Somersetshire. Here he built a fort, from

which he sometimes made surprise attacks upon the Danes. In one fight he lost a beautiful jewel which was found again eight hundred years later, and can now be seen at Oxford.

While Alfred was at Athelney he wished to find out what the Danes' plans were and how many men they had, so one day he dressed up as a minstrel and went into the Danish camp. This was easy for him, for from the time when he was a boy he had loved to sing to the harp all the songs that the English people used to sing in the evenings at their feasts. While he was singing, the Danes talked about the way in which they meant to attack the English army, thinking that the minstrel would not be able to understand what they were saying.

Soon Alfred and his men were ready to fight the Danes, and this time they won a great battle at Ethandun, or Edington, as we now call it, in Wiltshire. In memory of this victory Alfred is said to have caused the picture of a great horse to be cut out of the white chalk of the hillside. The white horse is still there, and can be seen by anyone passing that way. After that the Danes made peace with Alfred and



ALFRED'S JEWEL.

(*Ashmolean
Museum.*)

their leader became a Christian. Alfred kept for himself the south-west of England and allowed the Danes to settle in the north-east.

Those towns whose names end in "by," like Derby, Appleby, Whitby, and Grimsby, are places where the Danes settled, for "by" was their name for a farm. Other towns where the Danes settled have names ending in "wich," like Norwich and Ipswich. Wick was their name for a creek.

Even then Alfred did not rest, for he knew that more Danes from over the sea might attack his kingdom. He ordered that forts should be made on the coast and at the mouths of rivers. These forts had walls of earth all round with sharp wooden stakes sticking up from them, and outside the walls was a ditch filled with water. Sometimes he ordered that a ruined stone wall round an old Roman town should be used.

Then he ordered the noblemen or Thanes, who owned land near the fort, to build a house inside the fort and to send soldiers and food there. The Thanes themselves were to have horses, spears and shields, helmets, and coats of mail, so that whenever the Danes attacked they would be ready to fight inside the fort or outside. In this way he trained soldiers to meet the Danes. He called these new forts "burhs."

We sometimes call towns "boroughs," and this is the same word. Later, when more Danes attacked, Alfred and his men were ready and drove them away again.

Even in the midst of all the fighting it was Alfred's custom, either at night or during the day, to read books or to listen while others read to him. He had learnt to read English when he was a boy, but most of the best books were written in Latin, the language which the Romans spoke, and he learnt to read this when he was grown up. When Alfred heard or read anything which he thought wise or interesting he wrote it down in a book or asked his friend, a monk named Asser, to write it down for him.

Alfred loved learning so much that he wanted everyone to be able to read. He re-wrote in English books on history and geography and religion which had first been written in Latin. Sometimes he added some of his own thoughts.

Alfred knew that the only learned men in his kingdom were the monks. Many had been killed by the Danes, and many of their monasteries had been burnt. He had new monasteries built at Athelney, at Shaftesbury, and at Winchester, and he gave wealth freely to the old monasteries. He knew that the monks would

pray for him and that they would copy his beautiful books.

Alfred also gave laws to his people. He called the wisest of his friends together and asked them what were the customs of the people. If they were good Alfred ordered them to be kept, and if not, to be altered. One of his laws was: "If a man strike his neighbour with a stone or with his fist so that he is badly hurt but still can walk with a stick, let him who struck send the doctor and do the man's work for him while he is unable."

Another law ran thus: "Injure ye not the widows and the step-children, nor hurt them anywhere: for if ye do they will cry unto me and I will hear them, and I will slay you."

In 900 Alfred died. This is part of a very old poem about him:

"Alfred was of England king,
Strong and skilled in everything;
He was king and he was clerk,
Lovéd he full well God's work;
Wise in word
And ware in deed;
Sure the wisest man was he
Of all folk that England's be."

Date for Reference.

Alfred reigned 871-900

Howell the Good.

Howell the Good was born in south-west Wales towards the end of the reign of King Alfred. After his father's death Howell became King of Cardiganshire. His wife Elen was the heiress of Pembrokehire, and after his marriage with her Howell ruled over this county too.

Howell was anxious to be friendly with the English, and he agreed that Edward the Elder, the son of Alfred the Great, should be his overlord.

Howell made a pilgrimage to Rome, desiring to worship at the tombs of the apostles Peter and Paul, and to learn anything that he could, so that on his return he might be able to rule his people better.

In his old age Howell became king of all Wales, the king of the north having been slain in battle. Then he set his heart on making laws which should be obeyed by all the Welsh.

He asked every district in his kingdom to send six men to the White House on the river Taff, now known as Whitland in Carmarthenshire. For six weeks the customs and laws of the different parts of Wales were discussed. At last the twelve most able lawyers wrote down the

laws to which all agreed. These laws give a very good picture of Welsh life in the tenth century.

The king, as we learn from the laws, had always a bodyguard of some hundred or more trusty armed horsemen who journeyed with him wherever he went.

All men were bound to help to support the king and his court, bringing flour, meat, honey, cheese, and other things in their turn to the castle at which the king happened to be staying at the time.



A JUDGE ON THE
JUDGMENT SEAT.

(*British Museum MS.*)

With the king went the great officials of his court. The most important of these was the chief judge. He sat at night in the seat in which the king had sat during the day, so that all men might at any time of day or night obtain justice. In the absence of the king he acted in the king's stead.

The king's judges were carefully taught their duties. They listened to cases and learnt the law, taking special heed to listen to the difficult cases that were brought before the king. After a year they took a solemn oath in the presence of the great officers of the court

that they would never knowingly do injustice, for money or love or hate.

The court physician was another of the chief officials. Unless he cured his patient he was not paid. Part of his pay went to buy candles for the time that he spent on night duty.

Another important member of the court was the bard, whose duty it was to sing to God and the king.

Others were the royal falconer, the chief huntsman, the steward, who ruled over all the servants of the household, and the cook, whose business it was to taste every dish before serving it to the king.

The royal officials slept together on the floor of the royal hall. They received for pay food, drink and lodging, and the king's goods when he had no further use for them. The chief groom, for example, received the old royal saddles. At Christmas, Easter, and Whitsuntide they received their woollen garments from the king and their linen ones from the queen.

At the table each had his own place. A person was chosen, called the silentary, to obtain silence if there was too much noise at meals by striking the pillar opposite to the king's seat.



A BARD PLAYING
ON THE HARP.

(From *Caedmon MS.* in Bodleian
Library, about
1000 A.D.)

Under the king were the chief men of the tribes, each like a little king in his own district. The tribes were divided into clans. To each clan belonged all those who were related to the head of the clan. Family life was very important, and on all great occasions the whole of the family was called together to talk about plans.

Below the freemen were those who worked on the land. They had to give most of what they grew to their master, but they kept a little for themselves. They lived together in villages, each having a little house, farm stock, and farm buildings.

Lowest of all were the slaves, who had been captured in war or whose ancestors had been made slaves. The men slaves waited on their masters, carried firewood, and ground corn, while the women washed clothes and did needlework.

Date for Reference.

Howell the Good, King of all Wales . . . 942-950

III. THE MIDDLE AGES.

The Norman Conquest.

About a hundred and fifty years after Alfred the Great died there ruled in England a king called Edward. He was given the title of "The Confessor" because he was a very religious man. He lived in a palace at Westminster in London. Near to the palace was a monastery and, because the church belonging to it was a poor one, he ordered that a new one should be built for the monks. Part of this church you will see when you visit Westminster Abbey.

While Edward was planning how the church should be built Earl Godwin was governing the country. After Godwin died his son Harold was the chief man in England. As Edward had no children the English people began to wonder who would be their next king, and many thought that they could find no better man than Harold, who was a brave fighter and a wise ruler.

In Normandy, in the north of France, there ruled Edward's cousin William, Duke of Normandy. At this time he was thirty-seven years of age. He was tall and very strong, but somewhat stout. On one occasion he came over to visit his cousin Edward, and it is said that the king promised him that he should succeed to the



HAROLD HUNTING AND HAWKING.
(*Bayeux tapestry.*)

English throne. Certainly William expected to become king after Edward's death.

About this time Harold was obliged to take a sea voyage. While he was crossing the English Channel a terrible storm arose, and Harold and the sailors were glad to put ashore. When they had landed they found that they were in the country of an enemy, and Harold and those with him were seized. When Duke William of Normandy heard of this he ordered that Harold should be handed over to him. Harold stayed some time at the court of the Duke, and was treated like an honoured guest. He went hunting and hawking with his host.

After some time Harold wished to return to England, for he had had word that he was needed there. When he told William of his wish the duke replied that before he went he must take an oath to help him to become King of England after Edward the Confessor's

death. Harold had no wish to make this promise, but seeing that he must, he put his hand on an altar and took the oath.

Soon after Harold returned to England, Edward the Confessor died and was buried in his new church at Westminster, where his tomb is still to be seen. Then, as the English did not want a foreigner (as William was) to be king, they chose Harold, and he was crowned, although he had promised William to help him to become king.

When William heard that Harold had been made king he was out hunting. He went straight back to his castle without saying a word, and he looked so angry that no one dared to speak to him. At last one noble ventured to suggest that William should punish Harold by conquering England. William had already made up his mind to do so.

Immediately William gave orders that woodmen should cut down the forests in his lands and that carpenters should make ships. The tanners busied themselves making leather for the horses' saddles. The armourers made armour and swords for the knights. At last all was ready. William's soldiers were collected and armed for the fight. The vessels were built to carry them over the Straits of Dover to



WILLIAM AND HIS MEN CROSSING THE CHANNEL.

(Bayeux tapestry.)

England. All that they wanted was a wind to blow them across, but for some time the wind blew from England to France, and William was obliged to wait.

Meanwhile Harold had heard of all that William was doing. He too gathered his men and his fleet on the south coast of England and waited for William to cross the Channel. His men grew weary of waiting, for much work on their farms had to be done.

One day news was brought to Harold that his brother Tostig and Harold Hardrada, King of Norway, had landed in the north of England with an army and had defeated the English. Harold wondered what he ought to do. Should he go north to defeat the new enemy? He could not leave his subjects in the north at the mercy of Tostig and Harold Hardrada. Yet if he went north the wind might change and William might

land in the south. He marched north with all speed and defeated Tostig and Harold Hardrada at Stamford Bridge.

Meanwhile the wind changed. William and his Normans crossed the Channel and landed at Pevensey. As William was coming out of his ship he fell by chance upon his two hands on the shore. His men took this as a bad omen, but William said, "See, by the splendour of God, I have seized England with my two hands."

After William came the archers, each with his bow and his quiver full of arrows, slung at his side. The knights landed next, their shields slung round their necks and their weapons ready. Last came the carpenters with their tools. The Normans held a council, decided on a spot for putting up a fort and erected it before nightfall. Meanwhile the cooks were busy cooking the supplies of food they had brought over with them.

News of the landing of the Normans reached Harold when he was thinking that he might give his men a well-earned rest after their long march northwards and their hard-fought battle with Tostig. Harold and his weary men marched south again as quickly as they could to fight the new foe.

They made their camp on the hill above

Hastings where Battle Abbey now stands, and waited for William to attack. In the battle which followed Harold was killed and William was the victor. In this way William won the name of "The Conqueror."

A little later the chief men of England invited William to be king. On Christmas Day 1066 he was crowned at Westminster in the church that Edward the Confessor had built.

This story is told in old writings, but it is also told in needlework. In Bayeux in Normandy there is a strip of linen more than two hundred feet long and nearly two feet wide, and on it is embroidered in eight different coloured wools the whole story as a series of pictures. Some people think that Matilda, the wife of William the Conqueror, and the ladies of her court did this piece of needlework. You can see a copy of the Bayeux Tapestry in the museum at Reading.

After William had been crowned king, some of the English tried to fight and drive him away, but he was strong and they were not able to defeat him.

When William had conquered England he had to pay the knights who had fought for him. He took away the land that belonged to the English nobles and said that it was all his. He gave land to the great Norman nobles who had fought

for him, but he made them give him a solemn promise that they would obey him, fight for him when he asked them, and bring other men with them to battle. The nobles also promised to pay him money in times of need.

These nobles had more land than they could use and they had promised to bring fighters to the king's army, so they gave away some of their lands to knights, making them promise obedience and money and help in war time. This was the same promise that the nobles had made to William.

This plan followed by William for dividing the land and furnishing himself with an army and with money is called the "Feudal System."



A NORMAN KNIGHT.

Date to Remember.

The Norman Conquest 1066



THE TRAINING OF A YOUNG SQUIRE.

(Drawn by Gordon Browne.)

Life on a Medieval Manor.

How Hugh became a Knight.

Hugh's grandfather was a knight who came from Normandy and helped William the Conqueror to win the battle of Hastings. When Hugh was seven years old his father made up his mind to do with him what all knights did with their sons in those days. He sent him to the house of a friend, Sir Roland, to act as a page and to be trained in all that he should know. One of Hugh's duties was to wait on his lord and lady when they dined in the great hall. He followed Sir Roland when he went out hunting, so that he might learn how a stag should be brought to the ground. He was taught how to tame hawks, what to give them to eat, and how to use them in hawking. He had a horse of his own which he learnt to ride, and he spent much time in fencing with a blunted sword. Sir Roland's chaplain taught him about Christ. From him, too, he learnt to read and write.

Before Hugh was fifteen he could play chess and backgammon with Sir Roland's visitors after supper in the evenings, and he could amuse the lady Matilda, Sir Roland's wife, with songs sung

to the harp and with dancing, at times when there was no jester or minstrel.

At the age of fifteen Hugh became a squire. Among his duties he carved the joints at table for his lord and lady and their guests, and carried round the wine cup.

Hugh received presents of weapons and armour, and began to learn how to use sword



BOYS PLAYING AT QUINTAIN.

(*"Romance of Alexander," Bodleian Library.*)

and lance first on foot and then on horseback. Many an hour he spent in the tilt yard learning to hold his lance steady while his horse was charging. Then he tilted at the quintain. Often this was a wooden figure of a man set on a post, clad in coat of mail and carrying a shield. When Hugh could drive his lance through the shield and armour he was pleased with his prowess and found an older squire to tilt against him.

At last came the great day when Hugh became a knight. Sometimes this happened on the field of battle if a squire showed great bravery in defending his lord, but Hugh was made a knight on a feast day when he was twenty years old.

The night before this was to take place the castle was full of life. There were many guests, much feasting, music and singing. The clothes which Hugh would wear next day were laid out for all to see. The guests admired the white shirt, the robe of ermine and the gold spurs.

On the evening before his knighthood Hugh took a bath to show that he wished to wash away his sins. Then he spent the night in the church, kneeling before the altar on which his weapons were placed. He prayed God to help him to act as a true knight should.

Next morning, after breakfast, he went outside into the crowd of spectators to the raised platform, where the great baron the Earl de Warenne, who had promised to make him a knight, was awaiting him.

First a knight, a relation of Hugh's, came forward to put on the young man's spurs. Another knight set on Hugh his armour, and a third girded on his sword. Thus armed, Hugh knelt before the Earl de Warenne, who

smote him on his right shoulder and said, "Rise, Sir Hugh."

More than one knight was made at this time. When Hugh and all the squires were knighted their squires brought their horses. Each new knight hoped to leap, fully armed, into the saddle without touching the stirrups, a very difficult thing to do. Then they went to tilt at the quintains. Each prayed that he might smash the shield and fling it to the ground at the first stroke. Often, after that, the newly-made knights engaged in tilting at each other, and all ended with a huge feast.

A Manor-House.

Sir Roland dwelt sometimes in a castle and sometimes in a manor-house. As he was wealthy and had many manors he moved about from one manor-house to another, staying at one until he had eaten most of the food that had been stored ready for him and then moving on to the next. Roads were so bad that it was easier for men to ride on horseback than for goods to be conveyed by wagons.

The most important room in the manor-house was the great hall with its timber roof. In the middle of the hall was the fire, piled up with logs. The smoke escaped through a hole in the

roof, for there was no chimney. The floor was strewn with rushes. At one end of the hall was a platform, or daïs, on which stood the table at which Sir Roland and the lady Matilda and their guests dined, seated in their chairs. The rest of the household sat on forms at trestle tables which were set up for the meal and put beside the walls afterwards. At night the hall was used as a bedroom for all the household.

Sir Roland had a private room, called the solar, to which he and his wife Matilda could go. It served as a bedroom for them too. Rough tapestry covered the walls. Beside the walls were chests in which they stored their clothes and everything of value.

In this room every morning Sir Roland put on an under-tunic of wool or linen, and hose cross-gartered below the knee. Above he wore a long tunic, belted at the waist, and a cloak



THE SOLAR.

(Based on fifteenth century solar at Charney Basset, Berks.)

fastened on the right shoulder by a brooch. His shoes were of soft leather.

The lady Matilda's dress was tight-fitting to the hips, with a long full skirt. Her girdle was jewelled, and her mantle longer than that of Sir Roland. Her hair was dressed in two plaits bound with ribbon, but her head was always covered by a veil or kerchief.

Oderic the Villein.

William, as we have learnt, gave his newly conquered land in England to the Norman knights who had helped him to win it, and among these was the father of Sir Roland. Sir Roland, like the other knights, did not himself want to sow and to reap on the land; he needed, however, the food that could be grown on it. He, therefore, kept part of the land in each of his manors and told the conquered English that they could have the rest of the land if, instead of paying rent, they would work on his land, which was called "the demesne," or domain.

The village had still its three fields, and the villagers had strips in each, just as they had in Anglo-Saxon times, but some of the strips belonged to Sir Roland, who dwelt at the manor-house. Look again at the plan on page 44.



HARVESTING—OVERLORD, BAILIFF AND VILLEINS.

(Pierpoint Morgan MS. Facs.)

Three days a week the villagers, many of whom were called villeins, worked on their lord's land, doing what the lord's bailiff told them to do. Among the villeins was Oderic. Sometimes he sowed, sometimes he mended roads. On the other three days in the week he worked on his own land.

At haymaking time and at harvest, however, Oderic had to work more days a week for Sir Roland, until all the hay and the corn were gathered in, for Sir Roland did not want his crops spoiled by rain. Often Oderic grumbled at this, because it gave him little time for the many tasks awaiting him on his own land. Oderic had also to take to Sir Roland presents of eggs or hens at certain times in the year.

TENDING SHEEP. (*Cotton MS.*)

Oderic could not leave his master and go to work for another. He had to ask his lord's leave before his daughters married, for Sir Roland did not wish the girls to marry villeins belonging to another lord. When Oderic died his son had to give a present of his best ox or sheep to Sir Roland before he could have his father's land. Oderic's children were villeins too.

There were three ways in which Oderic could become free. He might save up his small earnings and buy his freedom, he might ask Sir Roland to let him be trained as a priest, or he might escape and live for a year and a day in a town, and if he were not claimed by his lord within that time he was free.

Oderic lived in a cottage in the village. He had set up four wooden posts to form the framework of the cottage and then filled it in with osiers and willow twigs. Inside and out the walls of the cottage were plastered with mud to fill in the gaps.

The whole cottage consisted of one room with a bar across it. On one side of the bar lived Oderic and his family, and on the other the pigs and the chickens. The floor was of earth except the hearth, which was a big stone. There were no windows and no chimneys, the smoke going out through a hole in the roof. For furniture there were three-legged stools, a rough table, and bed boxes filled with hay and covered with blankets woven by Oderic's wife. Flat pieces of wood served for plates, and the bowls that were used were of wood. In the corner of the hut stood Oderic's tools, a flail made of two sticks of hazelwood jointed together by leather, which he used for thrashing the corn, a sickle for cutting the wheat, and a pitch-fork.

Oderic wore a plain short tunic with a hood hanging down his back. On his legs he wore wide stockings made of cloth. His shoes were of heavy felt or cloth, or sometimes of leather.



THRASHING AND WINNOWING. (*Cotton MS.*)

Richard the Lion Heart and the Crusades.

Ten years after William the Conqueror died, the Crusades or Wars of the Cross began. The Crusades were wars between the Christians and the Mohammedans, the latter being followers of



EFFIGY OF A
CRUSADER.

(In Hughenden
Church, Berks.)

a great teacher called Mohammed. At that time Palestine was ruled by Turks (who were Mohammedans), and they ill-treated Christians who made journeys to worship at Jerusalem. As a result the Christians made up their minds that they would capture Jerusalem, drive out the Turks, and have the Holy Land for themselves. Those who went to fight were called Crusaders, because they fought under the banner of the Cross. The word Crusade is from a Latin word which means "cross."

After a long march and much fighting the Crusaders captured Jerusalem, and the Holy Land was ruled by the Christians. The Turks, however, were close at

hand, waiting for a chance to regain what they had lost. At first they did not succeed, but later they began to win back the land bit by bit. In 1187, nearly a hundred years after the Crusades began, under their great leader Saladin, they captured Jerusalem and the important sea-coast town of Acre.

When the news of this reached Europe the Christians were very angry with themselves because they had allowed Saladin to gain Jerusalem. Three important kings resolved that they would go on Crusade to punish the Turks. This was called the Third Crusade.

The first of these rulers was the emperor Frederick Barbarossa or Red Beard, who ruled over what we now call Germany and Italy. He and his army marched by land beside the river Danube to Constantinople and crossed to Asia-Minor. One evening Frederick and his army came to a river. Frederick would not wait until next day and plunged in to swim across. The current was very strong; he was swept away, and drowned in the sight of his army. Very few of his men reached the Holy Land to fight.

The second king was Philip Augustus of France, and the third was Richard I. of

England, the great grandson of William the Conqueror. Richard was very tall, with red-gold hair, very strong, and noted as a mighty warrior.

Philip and Richard landed in Sicily and at once began to quarrel. Richard captured a town and set up his banners. Philip demanded that they should be taken down and his own set up. Richard refused, but at length agreed that neither should be set up.

Richard then went on to Cyprus and captured the island. From there he sailed for Acre, which was being besieged by the Christians. On the way he met a great ship carrying arms and food for the Turks defending Acre. Richard's men attacked it, but as the fight was a stiff one, would have given up had not Richard urged them on. At last they sank the ship as they could not capture it.

Two days later they caught sight of the towers and strong walls of Acre. As they looked closer they could see the Christians besieging the city, and then farther away the Turks encircling the Christians. King Philip Augustus, who had reached Acre first, came down to the harbour to welcome Richard and his men. There was great joy among all the Crusaders that so great a warrior as Richard had come.

The Crusaders had great difficulty in capturing the city, because its walls were very strong. Sometimes the Crusaders hurled great stones into the town from their siege engines ;



CRUSADERS ATTACKING A WALLED CITY (JERUSALEM).

(Based on a German MS., about 1200-1250.)

sometimes the Turks rained down arrows on them from above. The Crusaders dug a hole underneath the walls and in this way they made one of the towers fall. Thus, after about a month's fighting, they captured the city.

Shortly afterwards Philip Augustus fell ill and made this an excuse for going home. In reality he went because he and Richard were always quarrelling. Before Philip Augustus departed he promised Richard that he would

not harm the English king's dominions as long as Richard was on Crusade.

Richard was so much feared by the Turks that if a child wept his mother would say, "Be quiet, the King of England is coming," and if a Turk's horse started, his owner would say, "Is the King of England in front of thee?"

Great was Richard's desire to capture Jerusalem from the Turks, but he thought that it would be impossible to take and hold it with the men he had, though he said that if someone else would lead the army he would gladly follow. All agreed that the task was impossible.

Just at this time one of Richard's knights came to him and said that he could show him a place from which he could see Jerusalem. Richard, however, would not look at it, and wept as he said, "Fair Lord God, I pray Thee not to let me see Thy holy city, if so be that I may not deliver it out of the hands of Thy enemies."

At last Richard saw that he could do nothing further. His money was nearly spent, his army was daily growing less. He heard that Philip Augustus of France was plotting against him with his own brother John, breaking the promise he had made before he returned to France. This news made Richard decide to return home

at once. He therefore made a treaty with Saladin, by which it was agreed that the lands round Acre were to belong to the Christians and that Christian pilgrims were to be allowed to go to Jerusalem. All the rest of Palestine was to belong to Saladin.

On the return voyage Richard was shipwrecked on land belonging to Leopold, Duke of Austria. This was unlucky, for Richard and he had quarrelled during the Crusade. Richard, seeing that he was in danger, tried to get safely through Leopold's land by dressing up as a merchant, but his ruby ring was recognised. For the moment Richard escaped on horseback. A little later, needing food, he sent his page-boy into a town to buy some. The page spent money so freely that the people suspected that his master was some great man. Another day they saw that he carried the king's glove beneath his belt. Richard was captured and put in prison, and then sold by Leopold to the emperor Henry VI., the son of Frederick Barbarossa.

For a long time no one in England knew where Richard was. Blondel, a minstrel who loved Richard, made up his mind that he would find him even if he had to visit every castle in Europe to do so. He went from castle

to castle singing one of Richard's favourite songs.

At last, when he was giving up hope of finding him, after he had sung the air outside a castle, he heard a thin voice, which he recognised as his master's, repeating the tune. Quickly he returned to England with the news, and the king's people paid the large sum of money that was asked for his freedom.

Richard never went on Crusade again. There were other Crusades after this, but in the end in 1291, after two hundred years of fighting, the Christians were driven out of the Holy Land.

Date for Reference.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|-----------|
| Chief period of Crusades | . | . | . | 1099-1291 |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|-----------|

Wallace and Bruce.

A Scottish bard, called Thomas the Rhymer, foretold that a certain day in March, in the year 1286, should be the stormiest ever seen in Scotland. The day proved very mild and quiet. Just as people were laughing at Thomas because they thought he was wrong a messenger brought news that the King of Scotland, Alexander III., had been killed that same night by a fall from

his horse. Thomas was right, for Alexander's death brought great trouble upon Scotland.

The next ruler of the kingdom was Margaret, the little daughter of Eric, King of Norway, and Alexander's grandchild. The King of England, Edward I., was anxious that England and Scotland should be ruled by one king. He proposed, therefore, that Margaret, the Maid of Norway, as she was called, should marry his eldest son Edward, then six years old, as soon as they were both grown up. Margaret set sail from Norway to Scotland, but she fell ill on the voyage. The sailors, hoping to save her life, put her ashore on one of the Orkney Islands, where she died.

After her death it was not clear who had the best right to be king of Scotland. There were thirteen men who each laid claim to the throne. The Scots, to prevent civil war, asked Edward I. to choose between them. He agreed, but before he would give judgment he made each of the claimants promise to look upon him as the overlord of Scotland. All agreed.

Edward then said that John Balliol had the



A KNIGHT DOES HOMAGE.
(Part of a thirteenth century
MS.)

best claim. John was, therefore, crowned king of Scotland and did homage to Edward.

The Scots were angry when they found that they could not do as they pleased without first asking Edward's permission. At last they joined themselves with the French with whom Edward was about to go to war. This made Edward very angry, and he became angrier still when a Scottish army invaded and plundered the two northern English counties.

Edward marched north with a large army and took the town of Berwick and put to death many of the inhabitants. He next defeated Balliol at Dunbar and made the Scots submit to him.

At Scone there was a stone upon which Scottish kings always sat when being crowned. There was a story that this was the stone upon which Jacob had rested his head when he slept and saw the angels of God ascending and descending upon a ladder that reached from earth to heaven. This stone—known as the Stone of Destiny—Edward took with him to England, and it is now beneath the seat of the chair on which British kings are still crowned in Westminster Abbey. Edward took the stone away to show the Scots that they were conquered. He left behind one of his

earls—John de Warenne—to rule Scotland for him.

The Scots, however, were not conquered. They found a leader in William Wallace, a tall, fair-haired, handsome man, very strong and full of courage. One day he was walking in the town of Lanark wearing a rich green cloak with a costly dagger by his side. An Englishman, seeing him, said rudely that a Scot had no right to be so gaily dressed. A quarrel arose and Wallace killed the man, ran swiftly to his home, escaped through the back door, and fled to the mountains.

The Governor of Lanark, to punish Wallace, killed his wife and burnt his house. Wallace swore vengeance on him and on all the English. He gathered round him a band of men who were resolved to deliver their country from the English.

Wallace and his men made many little raids on the English troops in Scotland until at last the Earl de Warenne gathered an army to attack him. Wallace drew up his men beside the river Forth and waited for the English to cross the long narrow wooden bridge over the river near Stirling. About half of the English army were allowed to cross the bridge. These Wallace attacked, slew many, and drove many more

into the river. The rest of the English fled. Thus Wallace won the battle of Stirling Bridge.

When Edward heard of this he made up his mind to go to Scotland himself and punish the rebels. He defeated Wallace at the battle of Falkirk, and hoped that at length he had conquered Scotland.

Wallace lived a hunted life for seven years and then was taken prisoner. When Edward's judges said that Wallace was a traitor, Wallace replied, "I could not be a traitor to Edward, for I was never his subject." It was said against him that he had burnt towns and killed many men. He replied that he had done that to defend his country's freedom. He was put to death in the hope of frightening the Scots into yielding to English rule.

Edward thought that he had at last subdued the Scottish people. But he was mistaken. They found another leader in Robert Bruce, whose grandfather had been a claimant for the throne of Scotland after the death of the Maid of Norway. Robert thought this a good time to claim the crown for himself, but John Comyn, the nephew of Balliol, also claimed the crown. The two agreed to meet at a church in Dumfries to talk the matter over. They quarrelled, and Bruce struck Comyn a blow with his dagger



HUNTING IN THE TIME OF ROBERT THE BRUCE.

(From a thirteenth century MS.)

and slew him. It was a cruel and terrible deed, and Bruce knew that by it he had made many enemies. He gathered together his friends and was crowned king at the abbey of Scone. Almost at once he was defeated by the English and had to take to the hills. For years he and his friends were hunted from one place to another.

John of Lorn, one of his enemies, had a bloodhound which had once belonged to Bruce, and he resolved to use the hound to track him. John's army and Bruce's came near each other and Bruce, thinking it unwise to risk a battle, ordered his men to divide into three parties and go back by different ways. The bloodhound followed Bruce's party. Bruce told them to scatter, and he and one man went on alone.

At length he came to a stream, and he and his companion plunged in and walked some

distance in the water. When the bloodhound came to the water's edge it was puzzled, and could not track Bruce, because running water does not keep the scent of a man's foot. In this way Bruce escaped.

Bruce gradually collected an army and used it so skilfully that at length the English dared not leave their castles and walled towns. Edward at first had thought little of Bruce, but he now saw that he must once again take a large army to Scotland. He was by this time an old man and had to be carried part of the way. He died at Burgh-on-Sands, three miles away from the Scottish border. Before he died he made his son promise that he would at once attack Bruce and subdue Scotland.

Edward II. promised, but he did not keep his word. He went back to England to bury his father in Westminster Abbey. On the tomb are the words: "Here lies Edward, the Hammer of the Scots."

For the next seven years Bruce spent his time winning castle after castle from the English. Edinburgh Castle was captured by a band of daring men who climbed up the rock on which it stands. The rock is so steep that the defenders thought that only a cat could come up that way.

At last, when Stirling was the only castle

left in the hands of the English, the careless Edward II. bestirred himself. He marched north.

Bruce collected an army, but could not equal the English force, which was said to be the largest and the finest that had ever left England. Bruce's men were poorly armed and trained. With them, however, he took up his position at a place called Bannockburn, near Stirling Castle, and awaited the foe.

The battle ended in a great victory for the Scots. It decided that the English should not subdue Scotland. Wallace and Bruce between them had kept their country free.

Dates for Reference.

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|---|------|
| Battle of Stirling Bridge | . | . | . | . | 1297 |
| Battle of Falkirk | . | . | . | . | 1298 |
| Battle of Bannockburn | . | . | . | . | 1314 |

The Black Prince.

Edward III. had a son, also called Edward, who was commonly known as the Black Prince, because of the colour of his armour.

When he was nine years old a war broke out between the English and the French which lasted with short times of peace for more than a hundred years. There were several causes

for the war. One was that the French king wished to put a stop to the woollen trade with Flanders, a trade which was very important to England. Another was that the French wished to take from Edward III. the lands in France over which he ruled.

When the Black Prince was sixteen his father promised him, to his great joy, that when next he went to fight in France he would take the young Edward with him.

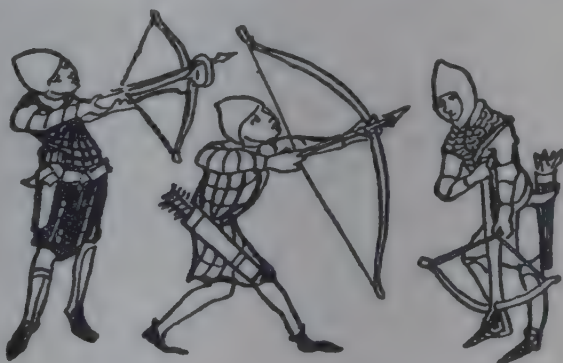
When the time came, Edward and his son set sail from Southampton and crossed to Normandy. For three weeks they marched, and then they crossed the river Seine. At length the French army came up with them at Crécy.

The king next morning divided his army into three parts, the centre, and the left and right wings. The left wing he put in charge of the Black Prince. In front he placed the English archers, so that they could shoot at the French knights as they came on to the attack. Then he rode to the rear of his army and posted himself with the reserve troops on a hill crowned by a windmill.

As the French were advancing there came a terrific thunderstorm which wetted and spoilt the bowstrings of the archers in the French army. The English kept theirs dry under

canvas covers. Then the sun came out brightly and dazzled the eyes of the French, but it was behind the backs of the English and did not trouble them.

The French archers attacked first, but the English sent back such a cloud of arrows that the French archers fled. Then the French knights attacked. Prince Edward sprang forward to attack those in front of him and there was a very hard tussle, for the French had three times



LONGBOW AND CROSSBOW.
 (Fourteenth century.)

(From a MS. in Bodleian Library.)

as many soldiers as the English. A knight went in haste to ask Edward III. to come to the help of the Black Prince because he was hard pressed.

“Is my son dead,” asked the king, “unhorsed, or so badly wounded that he cannot support himself?”

“Nay, I thank God,” answered the knight; “but he is in so hot a fight that he has great need of your help.”

“Let the boy win his spurs,” replied the king; “for I am determined, if it please God, that all the glory and honour of this day shall be his and those into whose care I have given him.”

Prince Edward fought on and at last drove back the French.

Then King Edward came down from his wind-mill, hastened to the Black Prince, and said, "My fair son, God Almighty give you grace to persevere as you have begun."

King Edward and his army then advanced to besiege Calais. In order to save his men, he waited until Calais should be starved into surrender. It held out stubbornly, however, and when at last it yielded, Edward said that he would be merciful only if six of the most important men of the town would give themselves up to him with ropes round their necks and the keys of the city in their hands. This message caused terror among the citizens, but at length, after the wealthiest man in the city offered to be the first, other five agreed to go.

When they came before Edward, he wished to put them to death. Edward's knights begged him to have mercy, but he replied, "They have caused men of mine to die, and they shall die likewise!"

Then his wife, Queen Philippa, threw herself on her knees before him and said with tears, "Ah, gentle sir, since I have crossed the seas with great danger to see you, I have never asked you one favour; now I most humbly

ask as a gift that you will be merciful to these men."

The king first looked at her in silence and then said, "Ah, lady, I wish you had been elsewhere; but I cannot refuse you. I give them to you to do as you please." So Queen Philippa feasted them, loaded them with gifts, and let them go.

Then the king, Prince Edward, and Queen Philippa went back to England.

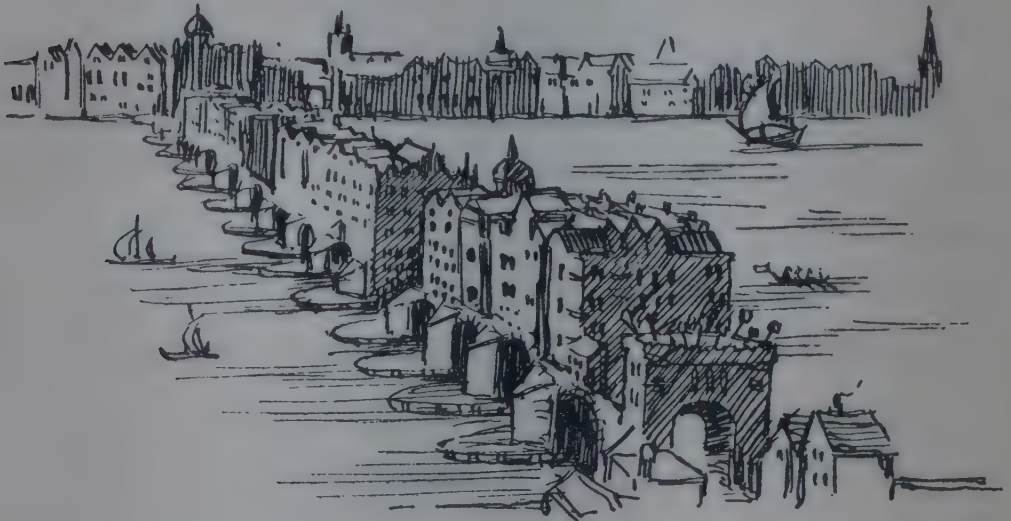
Ten years later the Black Prince won another great victory at Poitiers.

The French king was captured and brought to the Prince, who gave a great feast to the captive king and his little son fifteen years old. They were served at the high table, the Black Prince waiting on them himself, refusing to sit down at table because he was not worthy to sit in the presence of so great a knight as the King of France, who had shown his courage in the battle.

The next spring the Black Prince took his royal captive home to England. There was a great procession through London. The King of France rode a splendid white horse. The Black Prince rode by his side on a smaller black horse.

First they crossed London Bridge, which was very different then from what it is now. It was

a stone bridge of twenty arches with a large drawbridge in the middle. On each side of the bridge was a row of houses. In the middle was the church of St. Thomas of Canterbury. At



LONDON BRIDGE IN THE MIDDLE AGES.

(From Visscher's "View of London.")

the end was a fortified gateway with battlements and a portcullis.

The procession passed over this bridge, watched by the shouting crowds, and on through the narrow streets with their quaint overhanging gabled houses, mostly built of wood. They went up Cornhill where the corn merchants sold their goods, along Cheapside, which was a noted place for buying and selling, past St. Paul's Cathedral, and then along Fleet Street. Everywhere the houses were decorated with tapestry hung outside the walls.

Through Temple Bar the procession passed out into the Strand, which ran through green fields to Westminster. Here and there on either side of the road were the houses of the nobles and the bishops, surrounded by gardens. At last they came to Westminster Hall, where Edward III. received them. He welcomed the French king and gave a great banquet in his honour.

After this an agreement was made between the English and the French. By it Edward III. gained a large sum of money for allowing King John to go free, and also much land in the south of France.

Dates for Reference.

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------|------|
| The Battle of Crécy | | 1346 |
| The Battle of Poitiers | | 1356 |
| The Treaty of Bretigny | | 1360 |

Wat Tyler and the Peasants' Revolt.

In the middle of the fourteenth century there raged in England a terrible plague called "The Black Death." People who caught it died after a few hours or lingered for a day or two. It lasted for about a year, and many, many thousands of the people of England died of it.

As a result the bailiffs or overseers of the manors could find very few people left in the villages to work on their lords' domains. Many of the villeins had died, and there was as much work to do as before. The bailiff tried to make those who remained work very hard.

Before the Black Death some of the villeins had paid the lord of the manor money instead of going to work on his land. After the Black Death the bailiffs tried to make them work instead of paying money. These villeins wanted to work on their own land, and were angry with the lord of the manor for attempting to make them work on the domain again.

After the Black Death those labourers who had worked for wages said that they must have much higher wages than before or they would not work. Some masters refused to give them more, but others were in such great need of men to till the soil that they were willing to pay them twice as much as before.

Then the landowners persuaded Parliament to pass a law that labourers were not to receive any higher wages than they had had before the Black Death. This made the men who worked for wages very angry.

Just at this time a man called John Ball went from village to village telling the people that it

was not just that there should be great lords who dressed in fine clothes and who always had plenty to eat and drink and who did not work, while the villeins had to work hard from morning to night and then had but scraps of food and ragged clothes. He added that this was not by God's will, for at first all men were equal. That was the meaning of the rhyme that he used to repeat :



“WHEN ADAM DELVED AND
EVE SPAN.”

(British Museum.)

“When Adam delved and Eve span,
Who was then the gentleman?”

Many listened to these words and nodded their heads and said that they were true. They became more angry than ever with their lords.

In the towns, too, there was much discontent because the masters made it too costly for the apprentices and journeymen to become masters in their turn.

While feeling was at this height there came tax-collectors into the villages and towns, for it was ordered that a tax be paid by everyone over the age of fifteen. The money was needed for the French war. By this time Edward III.

and the Black prince were dead and England was no longer victorious. This made the people unwilling to pay the taxes. In Kent, Essex, Norfolk, and Suffolk rioting began.

The villagers went to the manor-houses and burnt the papers on which were written down what services they ought to do as villeins. In Kent they had a leader in Wat Tyler, an old soldier who had fought in France. The rebels decided that they would march to London to ask the king to make them all free, so that, instead of working for their lords, they might pay fourpence an acre for their lands.

Friends inside the city let the rebels in. First they roamed about the streets, then they burnt down the house of John, Duke of Lancaster, because they supposed that he was unfriendly to them. Next they burnt the halls, the library, and the houses of the lawyers, because the lawyers could prove from their papers that the villeins ought to work for their lords.

That night the young king Richard offered to meet the rebels next day at Mile End. He was the son of the Black Prince, and had become king at the age of ten on the death of Edward III. At this time he was but a lad of fourteen years.

The following day, accompanied by only one



JOHN BALL (on horseback) ADDRESSING WAT TYLER AND
THE REBELS AT BLACKHEATH.

(From illumination in a Froissart MS. in the British Museum.)

or two attendants, he rode to Mile End. There Wat Tyler told the King what the villeins wanted, and Richard, in written statements (or charters) which he gave to them, said:

“Richard, by God’s grace King of England and France, to all his faithful subjects, greeting. Know that we have made free all our subjects of the county of ——— and have freed all and each of them from villeinage, and we have pardoned them from all offences.”

Richard added that each of them was to pay fourpence to his lord for every acre of land instead of working for him.

Still Wat Tyler and some of his men did not leave London. They seized the Tower. Richard said he would meet Wat Tyler again next day at Smithfield. Richard took about two hundred men with him this time. Opposite him Tyler's men waited with their bows and arrows ready. Wat Tyler rode forward to meet the king. They talked. Then high words arose and Walworth, the Lord Mayor of London, struck down Wat Tyler and he died. When Wat Tyler's men saw this they bent their bows to shoot.

Richard showed not the least fear. He rode out alone to meet them, and raised his hand. "Sirs," he said, "Will you shoot your king? I will be your captain. And you shall have from me that which you seek. Follow me!"

Out in the fields he talked to them alone. About an hour later the mayor appeared with the citizens in arms and surrounded the rebels. Richard sent the peasants home, promising that they should have what they wanted.

Richard had made a promise that it was not in his power to keep, and the villeins therefore gained nothing as a result of their revolt.

Yet in the course of the next hundred years

all the people of England gained their freedom and there were no more villeins. This change occurred because the lords found that it paid them better to keep sheep than to have their lands tilled. Fewer men were needed to look after the sheep than to cultivate the soil. They also paid wages to the men who worked for them because they found that by this method they worked much better.

Dates for Reference.

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| The Black Death | 1348-49 |
| The Peasants' Revolt. | 1381 |

Town Life in the Middle Ages.

A traveller in the Middle Ages could often tell when he was nearing a town, because in the distance he could see the walls that enclosed it. These walls were built to keep out enemies and were very high. So thick were they that the citizens could, if they liked, walk round the city on the top of them. At intervals along the walls were towers with slits in them through which archers could shoot at an enemy outside. If you visit Chester or York you can see the old walls that surrounded the city in the Middle Ages.

In these walls there were gates, protected by towers, and by these gates travellers could enter. Sometimes there was a deep trench or a ditch outside the wall.



A GATE INTO A TOWN OF THE
MIDDLE AGES.

(*Bootham Bar, York.*)

Perhaps the traveller had to shout to the porter to lower the drawbridge over it. In the arch of the gateway was a portcullis, a kind of gate which could be dropped from above to close the passage if the enemy tried to enter the town. In-

side the portcullis was the great gate of the town, made of solid oak strengthened with iron. The porter opened this at sunrise and shut it again at sunset. If the traveller was a merchant who brought goods to sell in the town he had to pay a toll at the gate.

The streets inside the wall were cobbled and very narrow. The houses, made of timber and plaster, stood close together, many of them two or three storeys high. The second and third storeys jutted out, so that the upper parts of the houses on both sides of the street were often so



A STREET SCENE IN THE MIDDLE AGES.

(Drawn by Gordon Browne from contemporary sources.)

close together that their inhabitants could shake hands from the upper rooms. If the owner of the house were a merchant he put up a shop sign, so that all might know what kind of goods he had for sale. He did not use words to tell the people what his goods were, because his customers were not able to read. In front of each merchant's house was a little stall on which were spread out the goods made by the master and his men. Beside the stall stood an apprentice, whose task it was to see that the

goods were not stolen and to call out his master's wares.

The house-door opened into the shop where the goods were sold and where the master, the journeymen or paid workers, and the apprentices were busy at work, making saddles out of leather or weaving cloth. Behind the shop was the living room for the master and his workers, the hall as it was called. In it they ate their meals, and there the workers slept at night. In the hall there was a ladder leading up to the floor above. Here was the solar, a sitting room for the merchant and his wife by day and a bedroom by night. In the kitchen the merchant's wife cooked and provided for all.

Once a week, on market-day, the little town was full of folks. None of the shops was open, but each man who had anything to sell set up a stall in the market-place. There might be seen the tanners who made leather goods, the armourers, the fishmongers, the butchers, the bakers. The spicers had stalls at which they sold the spices from the East with which people used to make more tasty the salted meat they ate in winter. The goldsmiths displayed their precious wares, the vintners their wines.

To the stalls of these merchants came the folk from the neighbouring villages to buy what they needed. They hoped, too, to sell eggs and poultry. The steward of the manor-house and the cellarer from the monastery near-by bought the food and drink needed.



A WOOD-CARVER'S APPRENTICE SHOWS HIS SKILL TO THE MASTERS OF HIS CRAFT.

(See page 112.)

In those days every man learnt his trade. While he was still a boy he was bound apprentice to the master of a trade. His master promised to teach him his craft fully, to give him food and lodgings, and to whip him if he behaved badly. The apprentice worked for

his master as long as seven years with almost no pay.

Towards the end of that time he made something to show that he was fully skilled in his art. This masterpiece was shown to the masters of the craft and, if they thought well of it, the apprenticeship was over. Often the former apprentice worked for his master for pay until he had saved up enough money to set up in business for himself. During this time he was called a journeyman. At last he became a master and trained apprentices himself.

In some towns all the merchants who bought and sold goods joined to form a gild, called a merchant gild. There were also a number of gilds called craft gilds. All the masters who were skilled in any one craft or trade belonged to a craft gild. There were, for example, bakers' gilds, butchers' gilds, goldsmiths' gilds.

The gild made rules about the quality of the goods made by the gildsmen, the hours of work and the wages of the workers, and the price at which the goods should be sold. These matters were settled at the gild hall by all the members of the gild. The gild appointed men to see that all these rules were kept, and anyone who broke them was severely punished.

If any member were ill or became poor the



A MYSTERY PLAY. (See page 114.)

other members looked after him, and after his death cared, if necessary, for his widow and children. Many gilds founded schools at which the children of the gildsmen could be educated. There were schools at Birmingham and at Stratford-on-Avon and at other places.

Once a year, on Corpus Christi Day, that is the Thursday after Trinity Sunday (which falls early in summer), the gildsmen had a festival. Each gildsman put on the livery of his gild and all the members of each gild marched in procession to church for a service. Next they

feasted. In some towns, especially at York, Wakefield, Chester, and Coventry, plays were acted on this day, the stories for which were usually taken from the Bible. Each gild acted one scene in the story.

The gildsmen used a stage mounted on wheels. The stage with the performers was wheeled to a place in the town which had been agreed upon beforehand. There the players of one gild acted a scene such as the story of the Creation. Then the players moved on to another agreed place in the town and acted their parts again. A second scene was meanwhile given before the first audience by another gild. Thus anyone who wanted to see all the scenes in the play stayed in one spot, where they were acted before him in order.

These plays acted by the gilds were some of the earliest acted in England. Nowadays we can read some of the plays which these gildsmen used to act.

Joan of Arc.

The agreement between Edward III. and King John of France did not mark the end of the Hundred Years' War between the French and the English. War broke out again and the French were successful. Then there was a lull in the war until Henry V. became King of England. In 1415 he led an army to France and won a great victory at Agincourt.

After that a treaty was made with the French. By it the English held all the northern part of France. Henry V. married the daughter of the French king Charles, and it was agreed that, when King Charles died, Henry V. should become King of France.

Henry V. died before Charles, and the war between England and France went on because some said that Henry VI., the baby King of England, should be King of France. But many of the French said that Charles's eldest son, the Dauphin as he was called, should be king. The English were winning more and more land. They besieged the town of Orleans, and the French would have lost the war if the English had captured it. Just at that moment there appeared one who was to be the saviour of France, Joan of Arc, a girl of sixteen.

Joan's father was a small farmer who lived in the north-east of France. Joan sometimes looked after her father's sheep, sometimes helped her mother in the cooking and sewing, and sometimes played with the other children in the village. Always she said her prayers and went to church. Often she was made sad by



A PEASANT GIRL.
(Fifteenth century
MS.)

the stories she heard of the fighting between the French and the English in the villages near her home, and by the fear that the English would in the end rule over the whole of France.

One day in the summer of her thirteenth year, when she was out in the garden, she heard Voices. They were, she believed, the voices of the Archangel Michael, St. Margaret, and St. Catherine, telling her that she would one day save France. Often these Voices spoke to her. At last, when she was sixteen years old, she went to one of the Dauphin's captains in a near-by town and told him that she was sent by God to save France. He laughed at her, and sent her home again.

The English won more victories, and again Joan went to the captain. Again he laughed,

but he gradually came to believe that perhaps God might mean to use her to save France.

At length he sent her to the Dauphin, who was living at Chinon, too lazy and too timid to try to win the crown of France for himself. Joan put on a man's clothes, and had her dark hair cut short as the page boys wore theirs.

The Dauphin had heard that she was no ordinary girl, but he wanted to prove her powers for himself. He dressed himself like one of his courtiers and ordered this man to act as though he were the Dauphin.

Joan came in. A sudden hush fell on the court. All eyes were fixed on Joan to see what she would do. Without looking at the make-believe Dauphin she walked straight up to the prince and said, "Most noble Dauphin, I have come from God to bring help to you and your kingdom." Soon the Dauphin gave her the command of his army.

She rode with her soldiers to prevent the English from capturing Orleans. The Dauphin had given her a coat of mail, and she carried in her hand a sword that had long ago been made for a great champion of France. She carried, too, a white standard worked with lilies, the national emblem of France.

The French in Orleans were almost in despair and about to yield to the English. Other French soldiers were outside the city trying to help them, but they could do nothing because the wind prevented their boats from entering. Joan arrived and the wind changed.

The next night she was able to enter the city to bring fresh food and fresh soldiers to the despairing people. They welcomed her as though she were an angel from heaven. In the next ten days Joan captured the forts which the English had built round Orleans. When the French were fighting to take the last fort she was wounded so badly that she had to be carried away.

Shortly afterwards, while she was recovering, she heard that the English were winning. In spite of her wound she went to the attack again, and the French were so much encouraged by this that they won the last fort. Orleans was safe in the hands of the French.

Joan's angel voices had told her that next she must go with the Dauphin to Reims, that he might be crowned king where all the former Kings of France had been crowned. Her hardest task was to persuade the lazy Dauphin to go.

Then she and her army marched through the land that the English had conquered, winning

battle after battle. The French soldiers believed that God had sent Joan to deliver France and that, so long as she was fighting with them, they were bound to win. The English thought that she was a witch and that the Devil was guiding her, and so they were unwilling to fight, and fought badly.

The Dauphin was crowned at Reims Cathedral as Charles VII. of France. Joan knelt before him afterwards and said, "Gentle king, now is done the will of God, who decreed that I should raise the siege of Orleans and bring you to this city of Reims to receive your solemn coronation, thereby showing that you are the true king and that France shall be yours."

The king then offered Joan anything that she would like as a reward for what she had done. Joan would take nothing for herself, but she asked that her village should be free from all taxation. Charles granted her wish. Then she begged him that she might go home since her work was done. She wished to return to her little village and to her humble tasks there, but the king would not let her go. Yet when she wanted to go on to capture Paris from the English he wasted time.

A little later she was taken prisoner by the Burgundians, who were allies of the English.

The English bought her from the Burgundians for a large sum of money, and then put her in prison at Rouen.

The Dauphin, for whom Joan had done everything, did nothing to free her, nor did any of the French. Many of the French nobles were jealous of her because she had won battles after they had tried and failed.

Joan was often brought before judges who asked very difficult questions for a girl of eighteen to answer. They wanted to prove that her Voices were not angel voices but the voices of evil spirits. As Joan would not yield they ordered her to be burnt to death.

They tied her to a stake in the market place in Rouen to burn her. She asked for a cross, and an Englishman standing by made her a little cross with two pieces of stick. Joan declared that the Voices she had heard were from God, and died murmuring the name of Jesus. An Englishman who was present said, "We are undone: we have burnt a saint."

Joan was dead, but the French kept on winning victories until at last the English lost all that they had won in France except Calais (which was lost in the time of Queen Mary) and the Channel Islands.

Joan by her life and death saved France,



A SCHOOL-ROOM IN THE MIDDLE AGES.

(From an old MS.)

The Paston Family.

There lived in Norfolk in the fifteenth century a family of the name of Paston. It happened that one of the family, John Paston, who was a lawyer, had to spend much of his time in London, while his wife Margaret remained at home. Often, therefore, they wrote to each other. Their letters and the letters of the rest of the Paston family, and the letters which other people wrote to them, more than a thousand in all, have been kept. From these letters we can learn how people lived more than four hundred years ago.

John and Margaret Paston had several children. One of them, young John Paston, when writing to his mother Margaret for some stockings, opens his letter thus:—"After all humble and most due recommendation as lowly

as I can, I beseech you of your blessing." It was quite usual for a child to begin a letter to his father or mother in this way. Children in those days stood very much in awe of their parents.

While the boys and girls were still young, they were sent to live with some family that they might learn manners and find themselves some grown-up friend who would be useful to them in later life.

John and Margaret Paston believed in giving their children the best education of the time. They sent one son, William, to Eton College, twenty-seven years after it had been founded by King Henry VI. Another son, Walter, went to the University of Oxford.

The girls, Anne and Margery, had not much schooling, such learning as they had being given them by the priest who lived in the house. It was thought better that they should be taught housekeeping, which in those days was much harder to learn than it is to-day. Margaret taught her two daughters to attend to the spinning and weaving, and to make most of the clothes of the family. They helped her as she managed the dairy, the brew-house and the bakehouse, and saw to the salting of the meat for the winter, and the preserving of the

fruit. Unless the housewives in those days took proper care the household might go short of food, for as a rule there were no shops near at hand in which to buy anything needed in a hurry.

Although the Pastons wrote many letters, letter-writing was not then so common as it now is. Very many people could not write, and had to wait until they could find someone, who made writing his business, to write their letters for them. Letters were dated differently in those days. Instead of dating a letter as we do now, people usually wrote that the day was so many days before or after some Saint's day.

When the letter had been written, it was folded, and the name of the person to whom it was to be sent was put on the outside. Then it was tied and sealed with wax. Often the man who was going to carry the letter was waiting till it was finished. Just as often, no one could be found who was going to the place



LADIES WEAVING ON A LOOM.

(Fifteenth century MS.)

to which it was to be sent, for there was no post in those days. In spite of this, most letters seem to have reached the people to whom they were written.

Letters from Margaret Paston to her husband in London often begged him to bring her on his return, or send her, such things as sugar, figs and dates, which could be bought only in London.

The Pastons delighted in reading, and to add to the number of their books, they often hired a man who could write well to copy handwritten books lent to them. Yet the library of John Paston seems to us to have been very small. He had thirty-four books. Of these only one was in print, the rest being written by hand. The list of his books was made just after the time when William Caxton set up the first printing press in England.

IV. EARLY MODERN TIMES.

Christopher Columbus.

Until nearly the end of the fifteenth century no one knew that there was a land which we call America. People knew that there were the continents of Europe, Asia, and Africa. The man who discovered America was Christopher Columbus.

Christopher was born at the sea-coast town of Genoa in Italy. When he was a boy his father and mother hoped that he would be a weaver like themselves when he grew up. Christopher, however, spent all his time down by the sea-shore, listening to the sailors' tales of all the strange places they had visited. Sometimes they would show him their ships, and now and then he went a little way out to sea with them.

As soon as he was old enough he became a sailor and made many long voyages. Whenever he had the chance he studied the winds and the stars and maps of the various countries and oceans of the world.

Some of the sea captains were talking of finding a way to India by sailing round the coast of Africa. They believed that this was the only

way to get there by sea, because they thought, as did most people at the time, that the world was flat. We know that they were wrong, because the world is a round globe. Columbus was one of those who believed that the world was round and that, therefore, if he sailed far enough to the west, he would reach India just as surely as if he sailed to the east.

Columbus drew a map of the world and marked the way he intended to sail, and went with it to the King of Portugal. He hoped to persuade the king to give him ships and men. The king and his councillors thought that Columbus would never reach India that way, so they refused. Columbus next went to the Queen of Spain, but Spain at that time was too busy fighting the Moors for the queen to listen to Columbus. Then he asked the citizens of his native town of Genoa for a ship. He even sent a letter to Henry VII. of England, but without success. A less earnest man might well have given up hope. At last, after years of waiting, the King and Queen of Spain gave him the ships he wanted. Columbus was full of joy.

Columbus went down to the shore to see if his three sailing-ships were ready. The biggest of these, the *Santa Maria*, was only ninety-three feet long and twenty-three feet broad. The



THE FIRST VOYAGE OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS.

(He discovered the lands now known as America.)

ships were there, but only one man of the crew was to be seen. Columbus asked what had happened to the others. The sailor replied that they were afraid and had all run away.

One had said that the world was flat and that if they sailed in the direction that Columbus meant to sail they would never reach India, but would come to the edge of the world, and would fall over and be killed.

Another had said that even if India could be reached by going across the ocean it was so far

away that the food on their little ships would be eaten long before they reached there and they would all die of hunger.

A third said that even if they reached India they would never be able to come back, for the wind always blew away from Europe, and they would be unable to sail back against the wind.

Columbus was very angry that all his sailors had fled. At last he had to obtain men from prison to work his ships.

They too were afraid. For a little while they said nothing, but as the weeks went by and they did not reach land they grumbled to each other. At length they became so frightened and so angry that they threatened to throw Columbus overboard unless he turned the vessels back for home. Columbus was forced to promise that if they did not touch land within three days he would turn back. Two days passed, and on the second evening the sailors noticed land birds flying about them and berries floating in the sea.

Next morning they saw the sandy shore of one of the West India islands off the continent of America. So happy were they that they forgot about the misery of their eight weeks' voyage across the ocean.

Columbus put on his finest clothes and stepped

ashore. He set up the royal flag of Spain to show that the land belonged to the king who had given him the ships.

At first the people of the island were afraid of Columbus and his men.

They had never seen white-faced people before and they thought that the new-comers were gods. Columbus was kind to them and gave them little presents. They gave Columbus pieces of gold, which they did not value highly. Columbus saw potatoes growing. Before his time no one in Europe had seen or eaten a potato. He also saw the tobacco plant and the natives smoking it, and he thought it very strange, for Europeans did not smoke at this time.

After a while Columbus and his men sailed back to Spain. When they landed, seven months after they set out, the people were beginning to think that they would never return. The Spaniards rang the bells in their honour, and



COLUMBUS TRADING WITH THE
NATIVES.

*(From a woodcut printed at Basel
in 1494.)*

feasted them, and cheered them as they went to the court of the King and Queen of Spain. The king made much of Columbus when he saw that he had brought back gold.

Columbus, in going to look for a new way to India, had discovered America.

Date to Remember.

Christopher Columbus discovered America . 1492

Mary, Queen of Scots.

In the year 1542 James V., King of Scotland, lay dying. News was brought to him that a daughter had just been born to him. "Is it so?" he said. "Then God's will be done. It came with a lass, and it will go with a lass." Shortly afterwards he died.

James had meant that as the crown had come to his family, the Stewarts, through Marjory Bruce, the daughter of Robert Bruce, who had married the Steward of Scotland, so it would be lost to them through the child just born. As it turned out, he was wrong.

Mary, Queen of Scots, the baby daughter, became Queen when her father died. She was barely nine months old when she was crowned. The onlookers noticed that she cried all the time, and they thought sorrow would follow.



BOYS PLAYING GOLF IN THE TIME OF QUEEN MARY.

(Sixteenth century MS.)

Henry VIII., King of England, wished that when the baby Queen should grow up she should marry his son Edward, the heir to the English throne. Thus might England and Scotland be united. This was the same plan that Edward I. would have carried out if the Maid of Norway had lived. Mary's mother, a French princess, wished her to marry a French prince, and when Mary was six she was sent to France.

In France she was educated with the French princesses. She learnt Latin and some Greek and Italian. She had a beautiful voice, both for speaking and singing. Mary grew up to be the most beautiful girl in the court of France, and so charming that all who saw her loved her.

At sixteen Mary married the Dauphin Francis, the eldest son of the French king.

Next year the French king died, and she became Queen of France as well as Queen of Scotland. The same year Mary claimed the throne of England, saying that she had a better right to it than Elizabeth, the daughter of Henry VIII. Queen Elizabeth never forgave Mary for this.

Mary was very happy with her young husband Francis. Everyone said that never before had there been so beautiful a Queen of France.

After Mary had been queen for a year and a half Francis died. Quickly she saw that as she was no longer queen she was not wanted at the French court.

Besides, her mother, who had been Regent of Scotland during Mary's absence in France, had just died, and the Scottish people wished her to come back to her own land.

Mary was very sad at leaving the court of France, for all was gay and bright there, and she guessed that she would be much less happy in Scotland. As long as she could see the coasts of France she looked at them, and as they were fading out of her sight she said sorrowfully, "Farewell, farewell, happy France. I shall never see thee more!"

She landed at Leith, and her Scottish nobles rode with her to the palace of Holyroodhouse

in Edinburgh. This procession, Mary noticed, was not nearly so grand as the state processions in France, and Holyroodhouse seemed a



THE PALACE OF HOLYROODHOUSE.

gloomy palace after the much brighter palaces she had known.

Mary made up her mind to do her best to govern her new kingdom well. Her greatest difficulty was that most of her subjects were Protestants while she was a Roman Catholic.

Mary thought that she ought to marry again, but she found it difficult to choose a suitable husband. At length she married her cousin Darnley. He was a tall and handsome man, with good manners, but he was both selfish and foolish and did not give Mary the help she needed in governing Scotland. Mary soon found this out, and when he asked that the crown should be his for life, and should go to

his heirs, Mary refused to agree. Darnley believed that the queen had been persuaded to turn against him by her secretary, an Italian named David Rizzio. He therefore entered into a plot with some of the nobles to murder this favourite of the queen.

One evening as Mary, Rizzio, and a few others were at supper at Holyroodhouse, Darnley and some of the plotters burst into the room. Rizzio, seeing that they meant to murder him, fled behind the queen's chair, hoping that he might be safe there. Mary, in spite of prayers and tears, could not save him. Darnley and the rest dragged him into the next room and killed him.

Mary was very angry, but she thought it wise to hide her anger from Darnley so as to win him from his friends. A little later Darnley became ill with smallpox, and Mary had him brought to a house called the Kirk o' Field, a short distance outside the walls of Edinburgh, so that she might be the better able to look after him and have him nursed properly. There Mary visited him often.

One night the citizens of Edinburgh heard an explosion. They hastened out to the Kirk o' Field and found that it had been blown up by gunpowder placed in the cellar, and that

Darnley was dead. Everyone said that the man who had planned this was the Earl of Bothwell.

Many of the Scots thought that Mary knew of the plan for ridding her of a husband whom she did not love. Three months later Bothwell seized Mary, carried her off, and married her. This made the nobles sure that Mary was guilty of planning her husband's death. They therefore rose in rebellion against her and took her prisoner.

Mary was imprisoned in the castle of Lochleven, which stands on a little island in the lake of the same name. Here she was forced to give up being queen and to allow her half brother Moray to be regent for her baby son James VI.

But Mary soon made friends. There was a lad of sixteen in the castle who became devoted to her. He managed to steal the keys of the castle, leaving behind a false bunch just like them. With the keys he let Mary and her maid out of the tower, locked the gate of the castle to prevent their being followed, and put Mary and her waiting maid into a little boat and rowed them to the shore. There friends of the queen were waiting for her. They had gathered an army in her favour, for by this

time the Scots had had time to remember her charm and forget her folly.

But her little army was defeated, and, knowing that there was no further hope, she fled to England to ask for aid from Queen Elizabeth. Elizabeth wondered what was the wisest thing to do. If she helped Mary to become Queen of Scotland again she would be setting up a powerful enemy to herself. If she sent her to France, Mary would join with the French, perhaps against Elizabeth. Elizabeth therefore kept her a close prisoner in England, moving her from place to place and allowing her none of the comforts due to a lady of rank. Elizabeth treated her thus harshly because most of the Roman Catholics looked upon Mary as the rightful Queen of England, and some of them plotted to set her free and kill Elizabeth.

The English were so anxious to keep Elizabeth safe that Parliament passed a law that any person on behalf of whom a plot was made against Elizabeth's life should be put to death.

A plot was made by Antony Babington against the queen's life, and Mary was tried for being concerned in it. She said that she knew nothing of the plot, but the judges decided that she was guilty.

Elizabeth, after much urging by her Secretary of State, signed a warrant for Mary's death to take place at Fotheringhay Castle. Mary was very brave, and much less moved than her attendants. To one she said, "Weep not, good



MARY, QUEEN OF SCOTS.



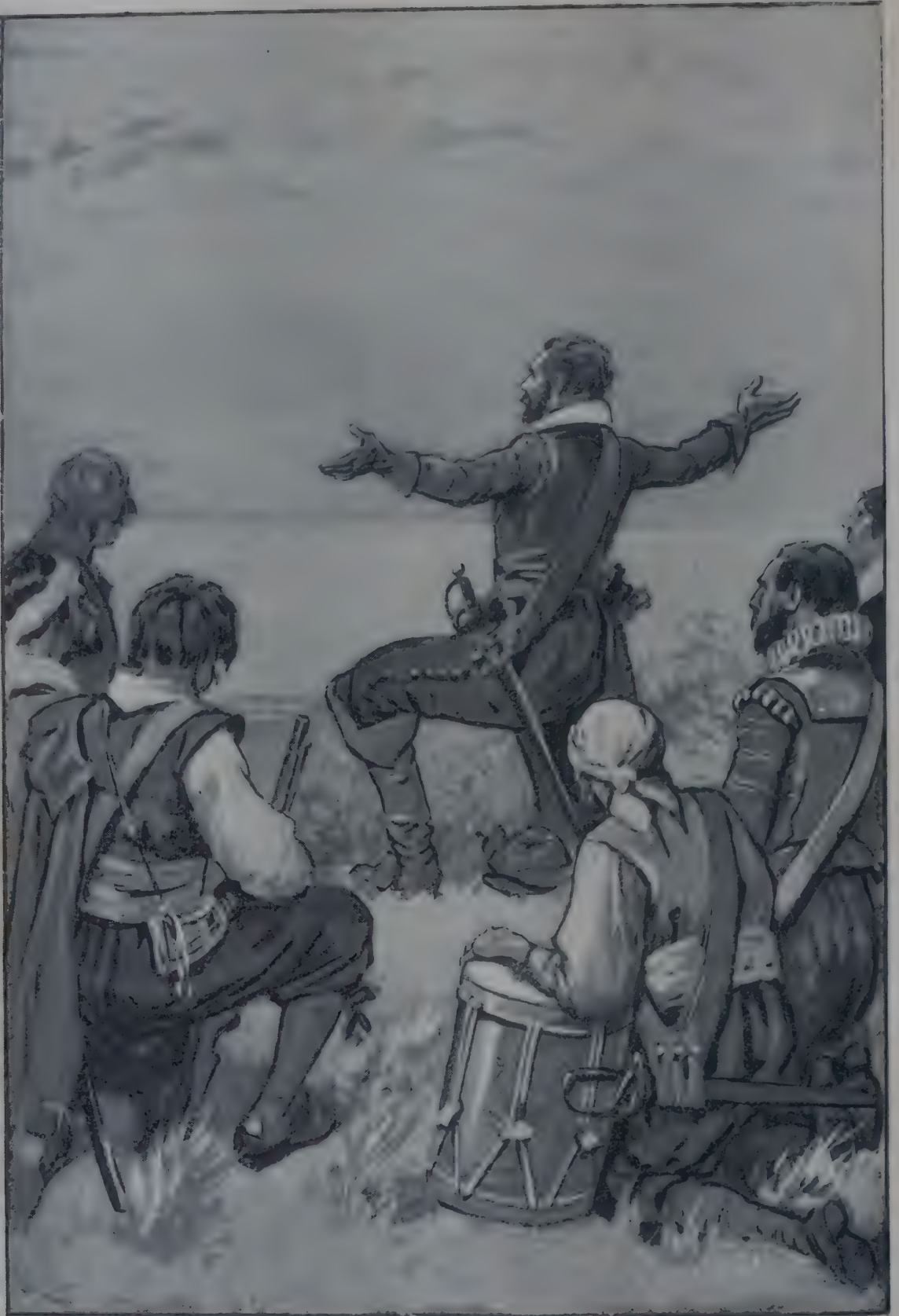
QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Melville, but rather rejoice: for thou shalt this day see Mary Stewart relieved from all her sorrows."

Mary's son James VI. was the heir to the English throne after Queen Elizabeth's death in 1603. He therefore was crowned as James I. of England. From this time forward England and Scotland had the same monarch.

Date to Remember.

The Union of the Crowns of England and Scotland 1603



SIR FRANCIS DRAKE'S FIRST SIGHT OF THE PACIFIC. (See page 142.)

(Drawn by Gordon Browne.)

Sir Francis Drake

How he sailed round the World.

Sir Francis Drake was the first Englishman to sail round the world. He was a Devon man, born near Tavistock and educated under the care of his cousin Sir John Hawkins. At fifteen he was apprenticed to the master of a small ship which traded in the English Channel.

When he was about twenty years of age he sailed with Sir John Hawkins for the Guinea coast in West Africa. There they captured five hundred negroes and sold them as slaves at a good price to planters in the West India Islands. In a fight with some Spanish ships, however, they lost all that they had gained.

Now the West India Islands, with all the mainland round about, belonged to the Spaniards. Some of the countries on the mainland—"the Spanish Main" it was called—such as Mexico, had huge treasures of gold, silver, and even precious stones. It was the custom to send two or three million pounds worth of this treasure home to Spain every year.

Drake knew of this, and made up his mind to pay himself back for the loss which the fight with the Spanish ships had caused him.

In 1572, therefore, with the permission of

Queen Elizabeth, he set out with two ships for the Spanish Main, and arrived before the town of Nombre de Dios, on the Isthmus of Panama.

Here a great treasure had been collected, ready to be sent home. Landing with his men, Drake, after a short fight beat back the Spaniards, but unluckily was so severely wounded that he had to be carried back to his ship. It was only this which prevented the "Treasure of the World" from falling into his hands. But Drake, like a true Englishman, was not discouraged by this failure. He hid his ships in a little bay of the Isthmus, and from there made sudden dashes out to sea against the Spaniards. In this way he captured and sank a great many Spanish ships.

While he was at this place he and some of his men landed and started to cross the Isthmus. He wished to see that great ocean which no Englishman had ever before seen. At last, on reaching the top of the range of hills which runs through the Isthmus, he saw the mighty Pacific spread out before him. Then he prayed Almighty God that he might be able to sail once on that sea in an English ship. In later years his prayer was answered.

At last, with his ships loaded to the hatches with plunder, he started for home.

It was on a Sunday in August 1573 that Drake and his ships sailed into Plymouth harbour. The news of his return spread like wildfire through the town. People rushed from the churches, leaving the clergymen to preach to the empty air, and everyone crowded down to the harbour to welcome their hero.

We might like to know what this Devonshire hero—"My little pirate," as Queen Elizabeth playfully called him—looked like. Here is what one of his Spanish prisoners tells of him :

"Drake is about thirty-five years old, of small size, with a reddish beard, and is one of the greatest sailors that exist, both from his skill and his power of commanding. His ship is near four hundred tons ; he sails it well, and has a hundred men, all as well trained for war as if they were old soldiers of Italy. Each one is specially careful to keep his arms clean. Drake treats them with affection and they him with respect. He dines and sups to the music of violins."

In 1577 Drake crossed the Atlantic and sailed southward by the coast of South America. As the ships passed through Magellan Straits, at the south of South America, they met with terrible storms. One ship went down, the

captain of another vessel returned home, and only Drake's ship, *The Golden Hind*, went on and sailed into the Pacific. Drake's prayer made on the hill-top was thus answered.

Drake sailed north along the western coast of South America, plundering the Spanish towns and ships. Then, since he could find no way back to the Atlantic Ocean, he made up his mind to cross the Pacific. For sixty-eight days he sailed, not knowing where he was going.

At last he reached the East Indies, and, after a farther long voyage, rounded the Cape of Good Hope at the south of Africa. In 1580, three years after he set out, Drake and *The Golden Hind* reached England, bringing treasure valued at eight hundred thousand pounds. Elizabeth went down to Deptford and knighted Drake, the first Englishman to sail round the world. Some of the treasure Drake gave to Queen Elizabeth, some he kept for himself and his crew.

The Great Armada.

Still the bad feeling between Spain and England grew. When Philip II., King of Spain, heard that Elizabeth had executed Mary, Queen of Scots he decided that he would punish her by building a great fleet, called the Armada, and

sending it with his soldiers aboard to conquer England. The ships that Philip had built were galleons. They were rowed by slaves.

While at Lisbon with some English ships, Drake learned that the Spaniards were fitting out a fleet at Cadiz which was to form part of the Great Armada. Drake's ships were a new kind that the English were beginning to build. They were moved by sails and not by oars, and they carried many big guns. The guns were fired through portholes in the sides of the ships, and the firing at the same time of all the guns on one side of the ship was called a broadside.

Drake and his fleet made straight for Cadiz harbour. The Spanish galleons rowed out, the commander meaning to attack the English ships. Drake ordered his men to wait till the galleons came quite near, and then to fire a broadside from each of the English ships. As a result thirty-three of the Spanish ships were sunk or burned and the Armada could not sail that year. Drake laughingly called this "the singeing of the King of Spain's beard."

By the summer of the next year—1588—Philip II. had another Armada ready. Elizabeth made Lord Howard of Effingham the Lord High Admiral of the English fleet, and he and Drake and the other captains with all the

English fleet waited at Plymouth for the expected attack.

One afternoon they were all playing bowls on Plymouth Hoe when they saw a little vessel racing into the harbour. It brought the news



THE SPANISH ARMADA.

(Based on a print from old House of Lords tapestry.)

that the Armada was in the Channel less than fifty miles away. The captains wished to set out at once to meet the Spaniards.

“There is time,” said Drake slowly, “to finish the game and beat the Spaniards afterwards.” When the game of bowls was finished, the English ships sailed out of Plymouth Sound.

Drake let the Spanish ships pass Plymouth and then followed them, cutting off those that straggled away from the main fleet.

The Spanish ships put into the harbour at Calais and here their Admiral learnt that the troops that he had planned to take over to attack England would not be ready to go aboard for a week. He decided to stay in the harbour.

The English held a council of war. At midnight eight old ships, crammed with faggots of wood steeped in tar, were taken towards the Armada. They were lighted and then drifted before the wind in among the Spanish ships as they lay anchored.

When the Spanish captains saw these fire-ships bearing down on them they ordered their ships to put to sea. In the haste and darkness some ships ran into others, and by the morning all the vessels were scattered.

Drake attacked them at this moment, and by the afternoon they were hopelessly beaten. Then a wind bore down from the west. The English ships made for harbour. The Armada was driven nearer and nearer to the Goodwin Sands. Just at the last moment the wind changed and the Spanish ships were able to sail northwards. Many put into Scottish ports

and were taken. Others were driven ashore on the west coasts of Scotland and Ireland, and on the Welsh and Cornish coasts. Of the whole Armada, consisting of one hundred and thirty vessels, only fifty-three got back to Spain.

Elizabeth had a medal made in honour of the event. The inscription round it ran: "The Lord blew with his wind and they were scattered."

Dates for Reference.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|---------|
| Drake's voyage round the world | . | . | . | 1577-80 |
| The Spanish Armada | . | . | . | 1588 |

William Shakespeare.

William Shakespeare, the greatest English poet and writer of plays, was born at Stratford-on-Avon, in Warwickshire, in 1564. His father was a rich tradesman who was once an alderman of the town. His mother, Mary Arden, was the daughter of a neighbouring farmer.

As a boy Shakespeare was sent to Stratford-on-Avon Grammar school, which still exists. Here Latin was the chief subject. He and his classmates used to speak Latin to their master. They translated Latin into English, and they wrote Latin compositions.

When Shakespeare was fourteen years old his

father lost his wealth, and took his son from school to help him in his business. Five years later Shakespeare married Anne Hathaway, a farmer's daughter who lived at Shottery, near Stratford. Shakespeare found his father's business dull, and at twenty-two, like many another young man, he set out to seek his fortune in London. He had set his mind on becoming an actor and on writing plays.

As we have read, religious plays were acted by the gilds in the Middle Ages. About twelve years before Shakespeare went to London the first theatre had been built. The plays acted in it had as their subjects stories taken from history and from life.

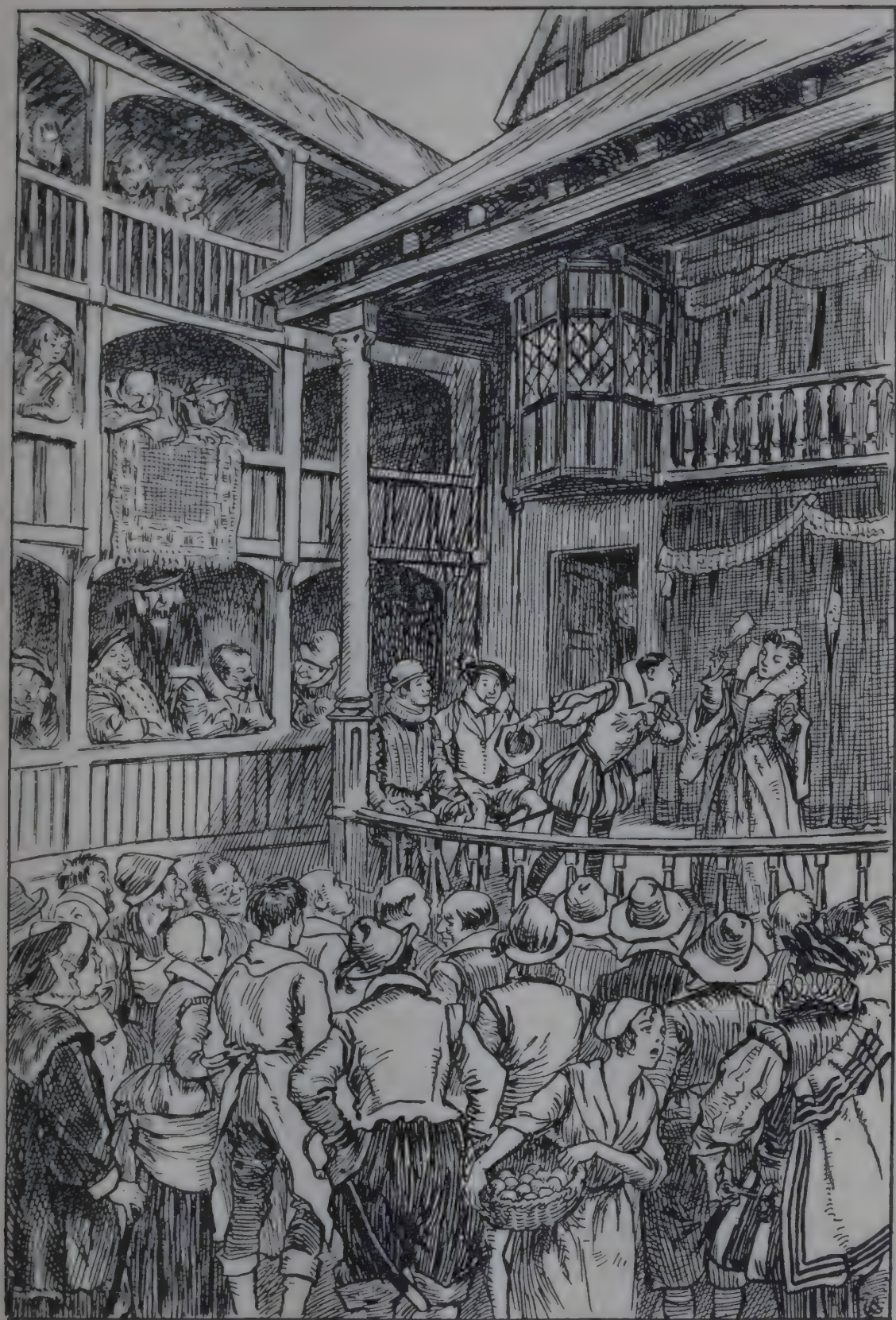
At first Shakespeare was merely a call-boy at the theatre, but after a year he joined a company of actors and was given very small parts to act. It was not as an actor, however, that he rose to fame. When he was twenty-seven he wrote his first play, "Love's Labour's Lost," for the company to act, and after that first success he wrote a number of plays. Some of them are about great people in history. One play is about Julius Cæsar, the Roman general who came to Britain. Another deals with the later years of Richard II., who bravely rode forward to speak with Wat Tyler at the

time of the Peasants' Revolt. Henry V., who defeated the French at the battle of Agincourt, is the hero of another play.

When he was thirty years of age Shakespeare was invited to have some of his plays acted before Queen Elizabeth on the two days following Christmas Day. Richard Burbage, at that time the most famous actor of tragedy, and William Kemp, the best comedian, were asked to act in the plays. We do not know what plays Shakespeare put on the stage for Queen Elizabeth, but we know that she was well pleased, for she gave him a present over and above the payment due. After this success his plays were often performed before the queen, and at a later date before James I. In time Shakespeare became part-owner of the theatre called the "Globe."

His success enabled him to pay off debts made by his father. In 1597 he bought "New Place," the largest house in his native town of Stratford-on-Avon, and from time to time he bought land in the neighbourhood. For some years after that he continued to spend most of his time in London, but used to pay a visit to Stratford every year.

At last, in 1611 he made Stratford his real home, though he sometimes visited London. He



A SCENE IN THE "GLOBE" THEATRE.

(Drawn by Gordon Browne.)

lived in the town as a country gentleman till his death, which took place in 1616. He was buried in the parish church of his native town.

The "Globe," the theatre with which Shakespeare was chiefly connected, was built in 1598. It was a wooden building, round inside, with two doors, one leading into the theatre and the other into the actors' dressing-room. There were galleries round the sides. The top gallery and the stage were roofed, but the pit was open to the sky. The stage was a raised platform, jutting out for some distance into the pit, so that the actors could be seen from the side as well as from the front.

When the play was about to begin flags were hoisted and trumpets blown. Plays were performed in daylight.

For most ordinary plays a penny was paid to enter the pit. The people who stood in the pit to watch the play were called "groundlings." Often they were apprentices in greasy leather jerkins, or servants in blue, with their master's badge on their shoulder. There were private boxes, each of which had a lock. For these, of course, the price was more. The most fashionable young men sat on stools on the stage.

There was no painted scenery. Sometimes notice-boards were hung up on the stage. On

these might be written, for example, "This is the Forest of Arden," or "This is Venice." The scene was so carefully described in the words of the play that the audience could easily imagine it, and scenery was unnecessary.

Plays by Shakespeare which were first shown at the Globe Theatre more than three hundred years ago are read and acted to this day. They still remain the finest in the English language.

Date to Remember.

Shakespeare 1564-1616

The Pilgrim Fathers.

Though Christopher Columbus discovered America in 1492 it was not till a hundred years later, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, that English people went to live there. The most famous of all those who went to the New World, as America was then called, were the Pilgrim Fathers, who left England for America in the year 1620.

At that time many people did not like the Church of England, and tried to make a church of their own. As they were not allowed to do as they pleased, some of them left England,

The Pilgrim Fathers

and settled for a little time in the pleasant old town of Leyden, in Holland.

Even in Holland they were not quite happy, for they felt that they were in a foreign country.

At last they made up their minds that they would go to America and make a new home for themselves there.

They returned to England from Holland, and then set sail from Southampton in the *Mayflower* and the *Speedwell*. Unfortunately the *Speedwell* did not prove sea-worthy and the pilgrims had to put back to the port of Plymouth.



THE WIFE AND CHILD OF ONE OF
THE SETTLERS.

This, however, did not daunt their spirits, and a hundred-and-two men, women and children, finally set sail in the remaining vessel, the *Mayflower*, across the Atlantic. After a voyage of about two months they saw stretching before them the coast of Cape Cod, part of what is now called Massachusetts. They tried to sail south to reach the mouth of the River Hudson, but

found themselves in dangerous waters, and had to turn northwards again. Two days later they rounded the most northerly point of Cape Cod and dropped anchor in smooth water.

Before making further plans, the men met in the cabin of the *Mayflower*, and agreed to live together in peace and obey the rules that should be made for the common good.

Then fifteen or sixteen of the men went on shore to explore the country near-by, and to bring wood to the ship. They set out in very wintry weather. The snow was falling most of the time. After four days they returned. A second party then set out to explore the coast. So cold was it that their clothes grew stiff in the freezing spray. A storm arose, and they were almost drowned, but shortly afterwards they found just such a harbour as they wanted. This they named Plymouth Bay. They then returned to report the good news to the rest of the party.



ONE OF THE PILGRIM FATHERS.

The *Mayflower* was brought into Plymouth Bay; the Pilgrim Fathers went ashore, and at once fell on their knees to thank God for bringing them safely over the ocean. Then they set to work in terrible weather to hunt and fish for food, to fell timber and saw wood. They had no friends to welcome them, no homes or towns ready built, no crops ready grown. During the first winter many fell ill.

At first the Pilgrim Fathers went in fear of the Red Indians, but one day an Indian walked up to them, and, to their great surprise, spoke in broken English. He came from a part of the country some distance away to which English sailors came to fish. A little later the settlers were able to make a treaty with a Red Indian chief who lived near them, and from that time the settlers had less fear of the redskins.

The settlers lived a very busy life. Some spent their time fishing for the cod that were plentiful off those shores. Others snared wild fowl and caught wild turkeys. Some hunted the deer for food. Others built huts, and when these were finished set up a wooden fence round them with a gate which they could lock at night. The settlers took it in turns to keep watch at night by the gate.

In the spring they planted the corn which they had found in a deserted Indian settlement. When the next spring came they divided amongst them as much corn as they could spare for seed, and each tried to grow the best crop with the seed he had been given. Men and women worked together in the fields.

In this brave fashion the Pilgrim Fathers met all the hardships of their new home. In spite of their troubles they were happy, because they were free to worship God as they thought right. As soon as they could they sent news to the friends they had left behind, and others came out from England to settle near them in what came to be known as the New England Colonies.

Date to Remember.

The Pilgrim Fathers landed in America . . . 1620



ALLYN HOUSE—NEW ENGLAND.

(The home of one of the Pilgrim Fathers. It was taken down in 1826.)

V. LATER MODERN TIMES.

Bonnie Prince Charlie.

"I go, sire, in search of three crowns, which I doubt not but to have the honour and happiness of laying at your Majesty's feet." The speaker was Prince Charles Edward Stewart, a youth of twenty-five, tall and very thin, with a long pale face and large blue eyes. He spoke to his father, James, who was known as "The Old Pretender," because he laid claim to the thrones of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

Why did Bonnie Prince Charlie, as he came to be called, say these words? His grandfather James II. had lost the crown because he governed badly, and in 1745 George II. was king of Britain.

The young prince knew that many people in Britain, and especially in Scotland, believed his father to be their true king. He hoped that these people would join him in a rebellion to win the throne for James. He also thought that the French would help him in his rebellion, (which is known as "The Forty-Five," because it took place in 1745), but after a small expedition had met with rough weather at sea the French would do no more.

Prince Charles Edward then vowed he would cross to Scotland, the land of his fathers, even "if he took only a single footman with him." He pawned his jewels, borrowed money and vessels, and set out.

He landed at Eriskay, a little island of the Hebrides, and two days later reached the mainland, at Moidart.

"When he on Moidart's shore did stand
The friends he had within the land
Came down and shook him by the hand
And welcomed Royal Charlie."

Sadly he was told on his arrival that he had no chance of success, and that he would be wise to return to France.

"I am come," he replied, "and I will not return to France, for I am sure that my faithful Highlanders will stand by me." He was right. The Highlanders flocked to his standard, and when they saw his courage and his willingness to share all their hardships they were filled with enthusiasm.

"The Hieland clans wi' sword in hand
Frae John o' Groats to Airlie
Hae to a man declared to stand
Or fa' wi' Royal Chairlie."

News of his arrival reached George II., who

offered a reward of thirty thousand pounds to anyone who should capture the prince. Charles Edward, however, took no heed, but marched into Edinburgh, proclaimed his father king at the Market Cross, and that night held court at



A SEDAN CHAIR USED IN EDINBURGH
ABOUT THIS TIME.

(From an old print.)

the palace of Holyroodhouse, where Mary, Queen of Scots, his ancestress, had lived. There the prince received all the leaders of the Jacobites, as those who supported his father were called.

He won all hearts by his grace and charm. Two days later his men won a victory over King George's troops at Prestonpans, near Edinburgh.

After this success more and more men joined the prince's army, and for six weeks he held court at Holyroodhouse. Then, leading the enemy to believe that he would follow the eastern road into England, he took the western road and captured Carlisle. From there he marched south to Manchester, and then misled the enemy into thinking that he would go into Wales. Instead he went to Derby.

News of his arrival in that town quickly reached London, where there was a panic. Shops were shut, men rushed to the banks to withdraw their money, and George II. and his prime minister, Walpole, began to wonder whether they would have to retire to Hanover, that part of Germany from which George II. came.

Just at the time that London was in a panic Bonnie Prince Charlie and his advisers were wondering what they should do next. Some were for marching on London, which they thought could be captured. The Jacobites had been victorious and had marched where they pleased in England, but the prince was disappointed. He had hoped that as soon as he and his army appeared in England, the English Jacobites would join him. He found instead that they had settled down to peace and prosperity under George I. and George II. and did not want a change.

Some of the Highlanders, too, wanted to go back home with their booty, of the value of which they sometimes had no idea. One of them sold a watch for a very small price, remarking that he was "glad to be rid of the creature, for she had lived no time after he caught her." He had not wound it up.

Instead, then, of marching on to London as he had planned, Charles Edward gave orders to march back to Scotland. Once more the



A HIGHLANDER.

Highlanders won a victory, this time at Falkirk, but at Culloden Moor Prince Charlie fought his last battle. The Highlanders made their usual dashing attack, but the Duke of Cumberland, who was in command of King George's troops, had trained his men to withstand it. When the Highlanders' attack had failed, Cumberland gave the word to advance, and the Highlanders were heavily defeated.

After the battle of Culloden, Prince Charlie had to hide in the Highlands. He was hunted from place to place, often nearly caught, usually in want of food. All Highlanders knew that they had but to betray him to King George's troops to win a large sum of money, yet no one would do so. Once when he was nearly caught a brave young woman, Flora Macdonald, helped him to escape to the island

of Skye. At last he was able to reach France in safety.

After this there was no further chance that a Stewart should become King of Britain, but some of the Jacobites continued to hope for it. Often when at dinner they drank the king's health, they passed their glasses over the nearest jug of water, thus showing that they drank the health, not of King George, but of Bonnie Prince Charlie, the king "over the water."

The Jacobites made songs about Prince Charlie and sang them. To this day they are still sung. This is part of one:



A DRAGOON.
(One of Cumberland's soldiers.)

"Bonnie Charlie's noo awa',
Safely o'er the friendly main;
Mony a heart will break in twa
Should he ne'er come back again."

Date to Remember.

Prince Charlie's Rebellion 1745

Captain Cook.

James Cook was the son of a poor Yorkshire farm-labourer. He had very little education, for eight brothers and sisters had to be fed and clothed as well as himself. As soon as he was twelve years old he was apprenticed to a shop-keeper. This life was not to his liking, so he went to Whitby, was apprenticed to a firm of shipowners, and served on board a ship.

Several years later he volunteered for the royal navy, and in time rose to the rank of master. He sailed with the fleet of which Wolfe was in charge when he captured Quebec. Cook's special task was to make charts of the river St. Lawrence. In those days there were neither good maps of the earth's surface nor good charts showing the depths of the ocean. Cook was able to make very good charts.

He studied the stars in his spare time, and wrote an account of an eclipse of the sun. He also made a careful survey of the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador. Owing to all this he obtained rapid promotion. In 1768 he was sent out with famous astronomers in the *Endeavour* on an expedition to the Pacific Ocean to observe another eclipse. He hoped

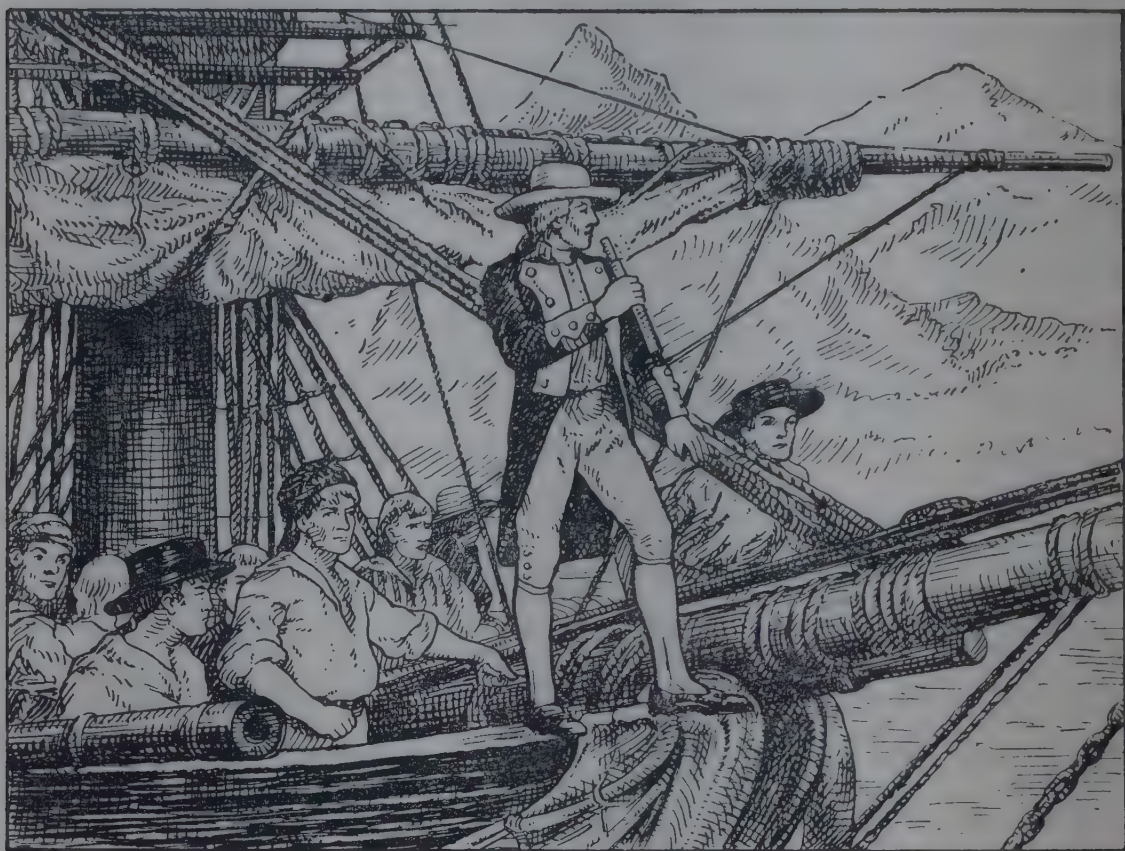
also to discover more about a continent that was supposed to exist in the south Pacific.

For centuries people had thought that land existed there, but no one knew much about it. Several Dutchmen in the seventeenth century had seen the shores of Australia in different parts. In the same century William Dampier, an Englishman, reached the coast of Western Australia. On his return Dampier wrote a book about his travels, in which he gave so gloomy a picture of the continent that other Englishmen were discouraged from exploration.

For nearly three years Cook explored the islands of the Pacific and named and put them into his charts. He came upon the most northerly point of New Zealand, and sailed south and through the strait between North Island and South Island, which is named in his honour "Cook Strait."

He discovered that the Maoris, as the inhabitants of the land were called, were cannibals. Nevertheless, he went ashore, and in the name of England set up on a hill two poles carved with the name of the ship and the date. He called together the nearest tribe with their chief, gave them presents, and treated them well, making them promise never to pull down the flag that he left flying there.

After sailing round New Zealand and thus discovering that it was really a group of islands, he sailed west till he reached the east coast of Australia. He put into an opening in the coast



CAPTAIN COOK EXPLORING IN THE SOUTH SEAS.

(Based on a print.)

which he named Botany Bay, because of the large number of new plants which he saw there. After a stay of six days he continued his voyage northwards along the coast, naming the capes and putting them into his charts.

Once the *Endeavour* ran aground on a coral

rock in the Great Barrier Reef, off the eastern coast of Australia. The men had to throw out everything they could spare before the ship was able to move off the rock. Her pumps could not keep the water from rising in the hold. At last she was floated off. By great good fortune a piece of the coral rock on which she had struck remained in the hole it had made. This enabled her crew to run her ashore for repairs. In memory of this accident Cook named the neighbouring cape, Cape Tribulation.

After this the sailors fell ill of a disease known as scurvy. There was nothing strange in this, for sailors on a long voyage often took this disease, which was largely due to the lack of fresh vegetables and fresh meat in their food. On shore the sailors found a vegetable that looked like spinach and a fruit something like a damson, which helped to cure them of scurvy.

At length the *Endeavour* reached and rounded the most northerly point of eastern Australia, Cape York. Here, on Possession Island, Cook and his men landed and took possession of the island and the east coast of Australia in the name of His Majesty, King George III. of England.

The *Endeavour* continued her way between northern Australia and New Guinea and the

East Indies. Thus it was proved that New Guinea and Australia were not connected. Then Cook sailed south of South Africa and so home. Of Australia Cook wrote :

“The coast abounds with a great number of fine bays and harbours, which are sheltered from all winds ; but the country itself, so far as we know, doth not produce any one thing that can become an article of trade to invite Europeans to fix a settlement on it. However, the eastern side is not that miserable country which Dampier and others have described the western side to be. Most sorts of grain, fruit, roots, etc., of every kind would grow well were they only brought hither, planted, and cultivated by the hand of industry ; and here is food for more cattle than can ever be brought into the country.”

As a result of this account, within twenty years Botany Bay became a place to which prisoners sentenced for various crimes were sent from Britain.

At that time people believed that there was a continent somewhere still farther to the south than Australia. In 1771 Cook set sail in the *Resolution* with orders to discover whether

this was true. After reaching the Cape of Good Hope, he sailed still farther south until he came to the edge of the ice which covers land and sea in the south polar regions, and sailed along it until he reached New Zealand.

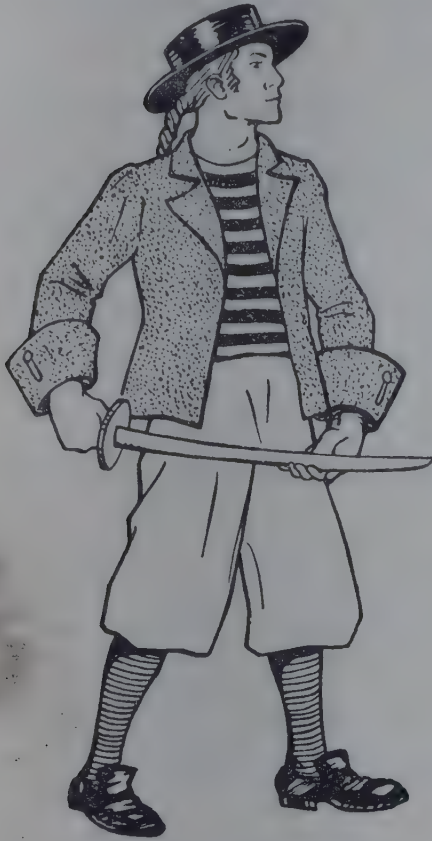
After cruising in warmer waters he again tried to find a way through the ice, but without success. He made a last attempt to find a polar continent by sailing south from Cape Horn, the most southerly point of South America. He sailed home again and reported that there was no southern continent other than Australia.

We now know that Cook was wrong. There is a south polar continent, but it is so covered with ice, and so swept by bitterly cold winds and storms that people cannot make their homes there.

During this voyage only one out of a crew of a hundred and eighteen men died of disease in spite of the length and hardships of the cruise. On his return, Cook explained how he had managed to keep his crew healthy.

Before Cook's time the sailors' food was often bad, and their drink dirty. Cook had lime-juice given to his men, and made them eat fresh green vegetables whenever they had the chance, and so they did not take scurvy. He said that they

must have a cold bath daily, and that they should never stay in wet clothes when it was possible for them to change. Each sailor had a clean place in which to sleep, and the whole of the vessel was kept spotlessly tidy.



A SAILOR OF COOK'S TIME.

Cook was next sent out on a voyage to the Pacific islands, and then to discover whether there was a passage from the north-west of America by sea into the Atlantic Ocean. It was felt that if such a route existed it would be a much shorter way from Europe to Japan than that by the south of South America or by the

south of South Africa. At this time the Suez and the Panama canals had not been made or, indeed, even thought of.

Cook sailed to the Cape of Good Hope, spent a year among the islands of the south Pacific, then reached the western coast of North America. He sailed northwards along it and through Bering Strait into the Arctic Ocean. There his way was barred by a wall of ice,

which stretched as far as the eye could see. He then returned south to the Sandwich Islands.

Wherever Cook went he made friends with the natives. He treated them with every kindness, and would not allow any of his men to be cruel to them. Once, when some of his crew had been unjust to natives, he called the natives together, brought out one of his own men, and whipped him in the presence of those whom he had wronged.

It happened, however, that Cook whipped one of the natives of the Sandwich Islands for theft. This turned the natives against him. They attacked the boat in which he had come ashore. Cook ordered his men to stop firing, and at that moment a native, coming up behind him, stabbed and killed him. The crew escaped.

Thus died the man who explored the Pacific, the coasts of New Zealand and Australia, and made maps of them. He added Australia to the British Empire, and discovered how sailors could live at sea for long periods of time without falling ill, a discovery of great value to future seamen.

Date for Reference.

Cook's Australian Voyage 1768-71

George Washington.

George Washington was born in 1732, in Virginia, one of the thirteen English colonies in North America. When he was five years old his family left the place in which he was born, and built for themselves a house in a part of the country where Red Indians lived. Just at this time he was sent to school where, as he grew older, he was taught arithmetic, the keeping of accounts and surveying, that is the making of maps and the writing about and measuring of the countryside. His parents thought that when he grew up he would find this useful.

When at sixteen he left school he wished to enter the British navy, but to please his mother he gave up this idea and went to live with his elder brother at Mount Vernon.

He was asked by Lord Fairfax, who lived near Mount Vernon, to make a survey of the Fairfax estate. He set off with a few others to ride over the country and make maps of it. He and his friends had to live very roughly. Sometimes they spent the night by some Indian camp fire. They ate what they caught or shot, wild turkeys and game, and cooked them on forked sticks and ate them off pieces



"SOMETIMES THEY SPENT THE NIGHT BY SOME INDIAN CAMP FIRE."

(Drawn by T. Heath Robinson.)

of wood. Washington on this journey saw the Indian wigwams or tents, and the Indian war-dances, and heard the Indian war-whoop.

On his return home Washington was made Public Surveyor for Fairfax County, and in this way he came to know all about the district. He made friends with the backwoodsmen and learnt the ways of the Indians. This knowledge was to become very useful to him later.

When he was nineteen he was made a Major in the colonial army. Shortly afterwards, what is known as the "Seven Years' War," broke out between Britain and France. Long before this time the French had settled in Canada, and hoped to gain more land from the British. Washington, after the death of his superior officer, led the Virginian soldiers in an attack on the French. He was, however, defeated and very soon returned to Virginia.

A little later the English sent an army from home, under the command of General Braddock, to fight the French in Canada. Braddock sent for Washington to help him. Braddock did not know the country and would not listen to those who did, and so he and his army were defeated. It was Washington and the Virginian troops alone who prevented the

defeat from being still more fatal to the British.

After this Washington left the army, married and settled down at Mount Vernon, giving up his time to the care of his large estates. He rose early and read or wrote by candle-light. At seven or eight o'clock he had a light breakfast and then rode on horseback round his estates. At two o'clock he returned for dinner. By nine o'clock he was ready for bed.

There was much for him to attend to, for on his estate he grew tobacco, he kept great herds of cattle and flocks of sheep, and his servants spun and wove the linen and woollen cloth that were used in his home. He saw to the sending off of great stores of tobacco to England and bought from England many things that he needed. Washington had so many negro slaves working on his estates that they had little villages of their own in his grounds.

For amusement Washington rode and hunted. When he and his wife wished to travel the servants brought out their carriage and four horses, or their beautiful boat that was rowed by negroes.

In this way Washington lived happily for fifteen years. Then he was called to lead the colonial armies in a war which broke out

between Great Britain and the thirteen colonies in America.

The quarrel arose because the British wished to tax the colonists to help to pay for the Seven Years' War. They thought it only fair that the colonists should pay, because they had gained as much by the war as Britain had. The colonists, however, said that as they had no members in the British Parliament they could not agree to taxation.

One of the taxes proposed was on tea. In order to show their dislike of this tax, a band of young men in Boston one day disguised themselves as Indians, boarded the tea ships and threw the tea into the harbour. The British were so angry at the "Boston Tea Party" that they ordered that no ships should go into Boston harbour to trade.

Before this time the thirteen colonies in America had not liked one another, but in their anger against Britain they each sent a few of their leading men to a meeting at Philadelphia, and among those sent by Virginia was George Washington.

The colonists then made up their minds to fight the British and they chose Washington as their commander-in-chief. They drew up "The Declaration of Independence," in which

they claimed that they were free of British rule. They took the name of the United States of America for their country and the stars and stripes for their flag.

At first the colonists were in difficulties, for they had not a large army ready, nor had they uniforms and other things which they needed. But Washington's wise and skillful leading, and his bravery, by and by enabled the colonists to make a stand against the British.

At last France and Spain entered the war on the side of the colonists. Britain at this time was at war with several countries in Europe, and so could not send more soldiers to America. She had to give in, and in 1783 peace was made, and Britain agreed to the independence of the thirteen colonies.

When the war was over Washington disbanded his army. In every town and village through which he passed the people cheered him wildly, fired cannons and flew their flags in honour of "the Father of his Country," the founder of American independence.



A MONEY NOTE ISSUED BY
THE AMERICAN COLONISTS.

Washington gladly returned to Mount Vernon and his life as a planter, but from this he was called to become the first President of the United States. At the end of four years he was again made President, because he had proved himself as great a President as he had been a commander-in-chief. Though pressed to take office a third time he refused, and returned to Mount Vernon to spend his last three years. He died there in 1799.

Date for Reference.

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| United States of America no longer under British rule | 1783 |
|--|------|

David Livingstone.

David Livingstone was born in 1813 at Blantyre, on the banks of the Clyde in Scotland. His father and mother were poor, and they had six other children. When David was ten years old he went to a cotton-mill to work as a piecer. Every day he had to go to the factory at six in the morning, and he left it at eight o'clock at night. With his small earnings he bought books which he sat up till midnight to study. At nineteen he became a spinner. That meant harder work, but also better pay.



LIVINGSTONE TELLS HIS FRIENDS OF HIS DESIRE TO BECOME A
MEDICAL MISSIONARY.

At this time he became friendly with a medical missionary who was home on leave from China, and he made up his mind that he would become a medical missionary too. Livingstone qualified as a doctor, and then offered to go as a missionary to Africa.

He landed at Cape Town and then went northward in his ox-wagon for hundreds of miles. He stayed awhile at the most northerly mission station and taught the natives Christianity, and attended to them when they were ill.

Livingstone wished to go farther north, where the missionaries had never been before. In one place where he settled for a time the natives were troubled by lions, and he arranged a hunt. A wounded lion sprang on him and dragged him to the ground. Livingstone felt the effects of that injury for the rest of his life.

At this time people knew something about those parts of Africa which were near the coast, but no one knew what the centre of the continent was like. Some people thought that it was a desert. Livingstone longed to find out the sources and courses of the rivers that made their way to the sea, and what kind of people dwelt beside them. Everywhere he went he made friends with the natives, trying to cure their illnesses and telling them about God.

Livingstone decided to make his first long journey for the purpose of finding a way from Central Africa to the western seaboard. First of all, however, he visited one of the native tribes with which he was friendly, and persuaded the chief to let some of his men go with him on his journey. As soon as everything was ready they paddled along the river Zambezi in canoes. After travelling hundreds of miles in this way they left their canoes and,

some walking, and some riding on oxen, went on towards the sea coast.

When these brown-skinned natives first saw the sea at St. Paul de Loanda they said,

“We marched along with our father (Livingstone), believing that what the ancients had always told us was true, that the world had no end: but all at once the world said to us, ‘I am finished; there is no more of me.’”

Still more surprised were they when they saw European houses and a ship which they said was not a boat, but a town.

The captain of a British ship wanted to take Livingstone back to England with him, since he was ill after all his travels. But much as he would have liked to go home to his wife and children, he felt that he must take back his faithful followers to their chief. He wished also to cross the continent from coast to coast.

He and his friendly natives returned to the place from which they had set off. Many were the tales which the natives had to tell to their stay-at-home relations. When, therefore, Livingstone said that he wanted to explore a route to the east coast, a hundred and fourteen of the tribe offered to go with him. Some sailed down



LIVINGSTONE EXPLORING IN AFRICA.

the Zambezi River in canoes and others drove the twelve ox-wagons belonging to the party.

One day as they were sailing along the Zambezi in the canoes, Livingstone saw, five miles away, what he thought to be the smoke of burning grass or forest. As he drew nearer he heard a dull roaring noise like the sound of fire driven by a strong wind. Then, among beautiful woodland he saw the river disappear. At great risk he drove his boat to an island in midstream and landed. From there he looked

down over the greatest waterfall in the world from which clouds of very fine spray arose like steam. He was the first white man to see it.

To these falls he gave a new name, the Victoria Falls, in honour of Queen Victoria.

From the Victoria Falls he followed the course of the Zambezi River nearly to its mouth. Then he struck across country and reached the eastern seaboard. It was four years since he had left Cape Town to explore the Zambezi River.

Livingstone then returned to England, but within two years he was back in Africa with a paddle-steamer with which to explore further the Zambezi River. He decided to explore the Shiré, one of its northern tributaries. He was the first European to discover that it flowed from Lake Nyasa. After many journeys in this region he returned to England in 1864.

On his further return to Africa in 1866 he set himself to find the source of the river Nile. Following the Shiré River and Lake Nyasa, he struck northwards. Unfortunately his provisions were not enough for the journey, and he and his men were so short of food that he wrote in his diary, "Took my belt up three holes to relieve hunger." His next trouble was that the man who carried his medicine-chest

ran away. Livingstone relied on these medicines to keep himself and his men free from fever in a hot climate. After many sufferings he reached Lake Tanganyika, then turned south and discovered Lake Bangweulu.

During further wanderings he suffered from continual illness, while he was filled with horror at the cruelties of the slave-dealers he met and of the cannibal tribes among which he was moving.

Meanwhile friends at home were becoming anxious about him. "When my spirits were at their lowest ebb," wrote Livingstone in his diary, "the Good Samaritan was close at hand, for one morning Susi [his native servant] came running at the top of his speed and gasped out 'An Englishman! I see him,' and off he ran to meet him."

Livingstone went out and found the young Welshman, Stanley, who had been sent by the owner of the "New York Herald" to find him.

Stanley did not know how to greet Livingstone.

"I could have run to him, only I was a coward in the presence of such a mob, would have embraced him, only he, being an Englishman, I did not know how he would receive me; so I did what cowardice

and false pride suggested was the best thing—walked up to him, took off my hat, and said, ‘Dr. Livingstone, I presume.’”

These were the first words Livingstone had heard from a white man for five years.

This meeting with another white man cheered Livingstone. For four months they lived together. Stanley says that during that time he never found a fault in Livingstone and that, though himself a man of quick temper, he never had cause to be angry with Livingstone, but every day admired him more.

Stanley wanted Livingstone to return with him to England, but Livingstone preferred to stay in Africa. For another year he continued to explore, but his health grew worse and worse.

One morning Livingstone’s servant went into his master’s tent and found him dead, kneeling by the side of his bed. His faithful companions made up their minds that they would not bury the body of their master in Africa, but that they would take it to the coast at Zanzibar and send it to be buried in England. Livingstone lies buried in Westminster Abbey.

Dates for Reference.

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|--|---------|
| Livingstone explores the Zambezi River | 1852–56 |
| Livingstone tries to find the source of the Nile | 1866 |



Captain Scott.

“We are weak, writing is difficult, but for my own sake I do not regret this journey. Had we lived I should have had a tale to tell of the hardihood, endurance, and courage of my companions which would have stirred the heart of every Englishman.” This is taken from the diary of Captain Scott, the first Englishman to reach the South Pole.

We have already read that Captain Cook, in his voyage southwards towards the Pole, came to believe that there was no land there. Since his time many brave men had risked their lives to find out more about the south polar region. By the beginning of the twentieth century men knew that beneath the ice of the Antarctic there was land.

Captain Scott was only thirty-three when he

was chosen to lead an expedition to reach the South Pole. On this occasion he was not successful, but from the voyage he learnt the best route to the Pole. On his return he wrote an account of his adventures.

He set out again in June 1910. The ship used for this expedition, the *Terra Nova*, was a wooden one, as are all the ships used for exploring the polar regions. Wooden ships can stand the blows of the ice better than the thin plates of steel, of which modern ships are made. It looked like one of the old-fashioned vessels, but inside it was fitted with an engine so that it did not depend on sails alone. Fixed to its main mast was a barrel or crow's nest, from which one of the crew always kept a look-out.

Scott spent the winter on an island called Ross Island, and in the spring his men busied themselves making depots or stores of food on the mainland, the most southerly being named One Ton Depot. He had hoped to put this last depot thirty-one miles nearer the Pole, but the ponies that he used grew tired and he had to give up his plan.

At last, on January 3rd, 1912, the small party which was to make a dash for the Pole set out, leaving their companions behind. They hoped to reach the Pole in a fortnight.

This date was chosen because it was mid-summer in the regions south of the equator, and during this time it is never dark at night near to the Pole. Near to the Poles it is day for four months at a time in summer, and night for four months at a time in winter.

The men who set out with Scott were Dr. Wilson, the surgeon and artist of the party (who was known as Uncle Bill), Lieutenant Bowers, Captain Oates, and Edgar Evans, a seaman.

They took with them in sledges all that they needed. They packed the food in strong canvas bags and placed it on the sledges together with a "Primus" and a cooking-stove, tins of paraffin, their tent and the scientific instruments which they needed. When they set out the sledges were drawn by ponies, but the ponies were quickly worn out, and then Scott and his party had to drag the sledges themselves.

Each day at noon the party made a halt. Hastily they put up a tent and the cook prepared a small meal. After a short rest they set off again on the afternoon march. Then came the halt for the night. The tent was set up again, the men changed their socks before their feet became cold, and the cook made a hot meal. After supper they all lay down to

sleep in their sleeping bags, which covered their heads and faces as well as their bodies.

Amid cold and ice they pressed on in this way till, on the sixteenth of January 1912, a fortnight after they left the rest of their party, they saw a flag. On the eighteenth they reached the South Pole. Near the Pole they saw a tent and a message — "Welcome to 0 degrees," signed, "Amundsen." There was a letter too, saying that Amundsen had reached the Pole on December 14th, 1911.

Amundsen was a Norwegian explorer who had set off for the Pole five days earlier than Scott, with five men and over fifty dogs. His party used skis and chose a mountainous route, which, while less distant from the Pole than the crow flies, was likely to be more difficult and dangerous than Scott's route. The Norwegian party had to kill and eat twenty-four of the dogs on the way. In fifty-five days they covered nearly nine hundred miles and planted the Norwegian flag at the South Pole.

Scott and his party were very much disappointed that after all their struggles they had not been first at the South Pole.

On their return journey the weather was bitterly cold and the men found it very hard work to pull the sledges over the rough ice.

Edgar Evans, the strongest man in the party, broke down under the strain. He could go on but slowly, and had to be helped and finally dragged on a sledge for three hundred miles. He died when they were yet six hundred miles from the point from which they had started.

The weather grew worse and worse, the cold being very intense and a blizzard blowing. Captain Oates was terribly frost-bitten and could hardly walk. He was quite unable to help with the sledges. "What shall I do? What can I do?" he asked.

"Just slog on, old man!" said Wilson.

Amundsen had come back from the Pole at very ~~ter~~ over fifteen miles a day. In order to get back to his depot before the food ran out, Scott would have had to do nine miles a day. Owing to Oates's frost-bite the pace was reduced to three. Oates knew that if they did not get on more quickly they would starve.

One morning when the blizzard was blowing Oates said, "I am just going outside, and may be some time."

Scott, in his diary, wrote, "We knew that Oates was walking to his death, but though we tried to dissuade him, we knew that it was the act of a brave man and an English gentleman."



CAPTAIN SCOTT.

(This statue stands in Waterloo Place, London.)

On went the others through the cold. "I do not think," Scott wrote, "that human beings have ever come through such a month as we."

At last they reached a spot eleven miles away from the One Ton Depot, where they had left a great supply of food and fuel for their return journey. Then a worse blizzard than all the previous ones blew and they could not move. They had food for two days, but the blizzard lasted for nine.

On 29th March, Scott wrote for the last time in his diary. "We shall stick it out to the end, but we are getting weaker, of course, and the end cannot be far. It seems a pity, but I do not think I can write more."

Eleven months later a search party came upon the tent and the bodies of Scott, Dr. Wilson, and Bowers. Scott's diaries of the expedition, letters, photographs, and messages to the public were also found.

Dates for Reference.

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Amundsen reached the South Pole | December 1911 |
| Scott reached the South Pole | . January 1912 |

How the World has become Small.

One of the most striking facts about the times in which we live is the speed with which we can move about the world and obtain news of what is happening in its most distant parts.

When Abraham made his journey from Chaldea to Canaan he travelled very slowly on camel back. No doubt he saw wheeled vehicles in Chaldea and Egypt, but they would have been useless to carry his goods, because there were no roads by the way he went.



IN THE DAYS OF BAD ROADS—THE PEDLAR AND HIS PACK HORSE.

(Pyne's Picturesque Groups, 1845.)

Walking, riding, driving, and sailing in boats driven by oars or sails remained for centuries the only ways of travelling. The heroes about whom this book has been written moved about

the world, but ordinary people travelled very rarely, very slowly, and then only for very short journeys.

A slight improvement in means of travelling was made about the middle of the seventeenth



A STAGE COACH.

century in England when stage coaches were introduced. They travelled at set times from town to town with goods and passengers. By the end of the eighteenth century mail-coaches, carrying letters and passengers, travelled along the much improved roads. Even in 1830 nine miles an hour was considered a good speed.

Just about that time the railway engine, invented by George Stephenson, was beginning to be used. The first line to be opened was that made to carry coal between Stockton and Darlington in 1825, and five years later the Liverpool to Manchester line was finished. At first to take a journey by rail was thought a

great adventure, even though the trains ran at less than twenty miles an hour, as compared with the seventy or eighty miles an hour of



AN EARLY RAILWAY ENGINE.

some of our express trains to-day. More and more railway lines were laid down, and nowadays we think nothing of travelling by train, though there are some old people yet alive who have never entered a railway carriage or spent a night out of their village.

Meanwhile a great change was taking place in travelling by sea. From earliest times men had depended on oars or sails for moving the ship, and the rate of progress was very slow.

It took Columbus eight weeks to sail from Spain to the West Indies. The first ship equipped with a steam-engine crossed the Atlantic in 1819, but for most of the twenty-seven days spent on the passage the ship used its sails. In 1838 for the first time two ships



THE "GREAT WESTERN"—AN EARLY ATLANTIC STEAMSHIP.

crossed the Atlantic relying entirely on steam. One of them did the journey in eighteen days, the other in fourteen instead of taking a month, which the sailing ship then required. After this many improvements were made in the steamship. To-day the fastest ships cross the Atlantic in less than six days.

It was only at the end of last century that the first motor-car was seen in England. The body was very like that of a horse-drawn vehicle flanked by carriage lamps, and it was perched high on large wheels. The motor-car was more useful than the railway engine

in that it did not need railway lines. It differed from it too in that its motion was not due to steam, but to a series of small explosions of



A "MOTOR-DRIVEN GIG" OF 1895.
(Drawn from a contemporary picture.)

petrol gas. Even twenty years ago a car was still a luxury. Now the car, the motor omnibus, and the delivery-van are to be found in every small village.

The latest great inventions of this kind are those of the airship and the aeroplane. The balloon was the forerunner of the airship, but its drawback was that it could not be steered. At the beginning of this century a German, Count Zeppelin, built an airship fitted with a motor engine. Two Americans, Wilbur and Orville Wright, fitted an engine with wings and in 1903 flew for fifty-nine seconds.

From that moment improvement after improvement was made. In 1909 a Frenchman named Bleriot flew across the English Channel. In



A MODERN AIR LINER. (The Handley Page "Hannibal.")

1919 flights were made across the Atlantic for the first time, and in the same year a daily service from Paris was begun to various places in Europe. Now aeroplanes fly to the ends of the earth.

Because of these marvellous inventions the world seems a much smaller place than it was to our ancestors. It took Drake three years to sail round the world, but in 1929 an airship did this in twenty-one and a quarter days. In these days, too, nearly everyone travels small

or great distances instead of staying at home as our forefathers did.

Perhaps even more wonderful than these machines which enable us to travel quickly to all parts of the world are the inventions by which we can communicate with people very far away without travelling at all—the telegraph, the cable, the telephone, and the “wireless.”

The electric telegraph sends messages over a wire. It was first used on the railways in England about 1840. In the post-offices you can hear the sender of the telegram tapping his instrument, giving long or short taps for each letter of the alphabet. The receiver at the other end of the wire notes the taps, translates them into letters, and so reads the message.

The next great invention of this kind was the laying down of telegraph cables under the sea. Less than a century ago the first cable was laid between England and France, and this led men to hope that a cable might be laid on the floor of the Atlantic to connect Europe with America. After various attempts it was laid in 1866. This made it possible for a man in London to send a message which would quickly reach New York.

Following upon this, in 1876 an Edinburgh man, Dr. Graham Bell, invented a telephone.

When he exhibited it at Philadelphia, a city in the United States of America, no one at first took any notice. Then the Emperor of Brazil asked Bell about it.

“Put it to your ear,” said Bell, and then he went to the other end of the wire and spoke into the mouthpiece.

“It talks,” was all that the Emperor could say as he heard Bell’s voice from the distance. Soon Bell was world-famous.

A telephone enables us to talk over quite long distances. Indeed, there are few parts of the world with which we cannot speak by telephone.

The discovery of “wireless” telephony, perhaps the most wonderful discovery of all, was largely the work of an Italian inventor named Marconi. He succeeded in sending a signal across the English Channel, and in 1901 in Newfoundland he received a signal from Cornwall without wires.

It was a great improvement when the human voice, instead of signals, could be heard without the wires. One of the greatest days in wireless-telephony was September 29, 1915, when a man speaking in New York was heard in San Francisco, more than three thousand miles away. Later in the day came the news that

their conversation had been heard on Pearl Island in Honolulu five thousand miles away in the Pacific. In October of that same year a man spoke in America and was heard in Paris without the aid of wires.

One of the most important things connected with wireless-communication is the setting up of a number of powerful stations in the British Empire, for direct communication with London. These are linked by less powerful stations so that, for example, a message sent from London to Sydney can be sent from that centre to the capital of every other state in Australia. By this means every important place in the British Empire is linked to every other, and every ship at sea can be in touch with London. •

Finally there has come broadcasting. A speaker alone in the studio can speak to an audience of all those who have receiving-sets and who care to listen-in to him.

By all these means countries which seemed very far away have become near. Distance matters much less than it did, for we can send lightning messages over space and can learn from our morning newspapers what of interest happened in the world yesterday. The world, which seemed so big, has become small.

Individual Study.

The Story of Abraham.

Pages 9-16.

1. To what city did Abraham belong? Why did he leave his native place?
2. Suppose that you had travelled with Abraham to Canaan, describe a day in your life.
3. Draw or model a pyramid.
4. Why was Abraham glad when his son Isaac was born?

Romulus, Remus, and Rome.

Pages 17-21.

1. Who were Romulus and Remus? What happened to them when they were children?
2. Where is Rome? How did it get its name?
3. Act the story of Romulus building Rome.

Horatius Saves Rome.

Pages 22-25.

1. What had happened to Rome that Horatius should have to save it?
2. Act the story of Horatius keeping the bridge.
3. How did the Romans honour Horatius?
4. Learn the poem about Horatius.

Cleon, a Boy of Athens.

Pages 26-32.

1. What was Cleon taught before he became a citizen? Which of these subjects are you taught?
2. What happened on the day on which Cleon became a citizen?
3. Describe a torch relay race. Run a relay race in the playground.
4. Imagine that you have visited the Olympic games. Write a description of what you saw.

The Invasions of Julius Cæsar.

Pages 33-34.

1. Who was Julius Cæsar?
2. Describe the appearance of the Romans at their first invasion and the Britons before their battle on the shore. Which would you expect to win? Why?
3. Is there any camp or road or other thing near your home, which was made by the Romans?

What the Romans Did.

Pages 35-40.

1. What do you think is the nearest Roman town to your home? How do you know that it is Roman?
2. Tell some of the things the Romans did in Britain.
3. Why did the Romans leave Britain?

The Coming of the English.

Pages 41-46.

1. How did the Anglo-Saxons treat the British?
2. How did Wednesday and Thursday get their names?
3. What do you think is the nearest Anglo-Saxon town to your home? How do you know?
4. How did England get its name?
5. Draw a plan or make a model of a village in olden times.

The English become Christians.

Pages 47-51.

1. Write down the name of the first man to bring Christianity to the English.
2. What was the name of the first English king to be a Christian?
3. What two monks preached to the Northumbrians?
4. Act the meeting of St. Augustine and Ethelbert.

The Story of Alfred the Great.

Pages 52-60

1. Draw the Viking's cap on page 53.
2. In what part of the country did the Danes settle?

3. Have you a Danish town near your home? How can you tell?
4. Why is Alfred called "the Great"?

Howell the Good.*Pages 61-64.*

1. In what ways were Alfred the Great and Howell the Good alike?
2. Which of the king's officials would you have chosen to be? Why?
3. How did he make laws for his country?

The Norman Conquest.*Pages 65-71.*

1. Why did Duke William of Normandy claim to be King of England after Edward the Confessor's death?
2. Why did Harold become king?
3. How was the matter finally settled?
4. Where is Hastings?
5. How did William treat the English?

Life on a Medieval Manor.*Pages 72-81.*

1. Who is the man sitting on the wall in the picture on page 72?
2. Would you rather live your own life or that of either Hugh or Oderic's son? Give your reasons.
3. Describe the hall of Sir Roland's manor-house.

Richard the Lion Heart and the Crusades.*Pages 82-88.*

1. Why was Richard called the "Lion Heart"?
2. In what country is Jerusalem? Why is it very sacred to Christian people? Why is Jerusalem called "The Holy City"?
3. What made the kings of Europe wish to go to fight against Saladin and his followers?
4. Did Richard capture Jerusalem?

Wallace and Bruce.

Pages 88-95.

1. What do you know about the Stone of Destiny?
2. Did the English conquer the Scots in the end?
3. Suppose Robert Bruce were telling his story to his little son. Write down what he would say.

The Black Prince.

Pages 95-101.

1. Who was the Black Prince? Why was he so called?
2. What were the names of the great victories won by the Black Prince?
3. Act the story of the six citizens of Calais.

Wat Tyler and the Peasants' Revolt.

Pages 101-107.

1. What was the Black Death? How did it affect England?
2. What made the poor folk want to go to London to see the king?
3. Imagine that some friend of Wat Tyler returned to his village. Write down what he would say as he told the story of what happened in London.
4. Act the meeting of Wat Tyler and Richard II.

Town Life in the Middle Ages.

Pages 107-114.

1. Draw a merchant's house.
2. Imagine yourself an apprentice. Describe your life.
3. What were the craft guilds?
4. Tell what you know of guild plays.

Joan of Arc.

Pages 115-121.

1. Why is Joan called "The Maid of Orleans"?
2. What do you think of King Charles of France?
3. What did Joan do?
4. Why are the French proud of Joan of Arc?

The Paston Family.*Pages 122-126.*

1. Describe the picture on page 122.
2. Where were the Paston boys educated?
3. What were the Paston girls educated to do?
4. What do you know about the way in which the Pastons wrote their letters?

Christopher Columbus.*Pages 127-132.*

1. Why did the sailors not want to go with Columbus?
2. Draw or model the ship on page 131.
3. Write down one sentence which tells the most important fact about Columbus.
4. Suppose yourself to be one of the men who sailed with Columbus. Tell the story of what happened when the ships reached the West Indies.

Mary, Queen of Scots.*Pages 132-139.*

1. Describe the life of Mary, Queen of Scots before she returned to Scotland.
2. Act a scene from the life of Mary, Queen of Scots.
3. What do you know about Darnley, Rizzio, and Bothwell?
4. What happened to Mary in England?

Sir Francis Drake.*Pages 140-148.*

1. What was the Armada?
2. Write down three important facts about Drake.
3. Act the scene in which Drake is told that the Armada is near.

William Shakespeare.*Pages 148-153.*

1. At what town was Shakespeare born?
2. Name some of Shakespeare's plays.
3. Describe a theatre in the time of Shakespeare.

The Pilgrim Fathers.

Pages 153-157.

1. Why did the Pilgrim Fathers fear the Red Indians? What do you know about Red Indians?
2. How did the Pilgrim Fathers obtain their food and make their homes in America?
3. Imagine that you are one of the Pilgrim Fathers. Tell the story of your adventures.
4. From the pictures, describe the dress of the Pilgrim Fathers.

Bonnie Prince Charlie.

Pages 158-163.

1. Learn some lines of poetry about Bonnie Prince Charlie.
2. If you had been living in 1745 would you have fought for George II. or Bonnie Prince Charlie? Why?
3. Copy the Highlander on page 162. Colour his coat dark green, his shield and shoes brown, and his kilt and stockings green with narrow red and yellow stripes.
4. Why had Prince Charlie to leave Scotland? Tell how he escaped.

Captain Cook.

Pages 164-171.

1. Who was the man who claimed Australia for the British?

Trace out on a map Cook's voyages.

Why did Cook's sailors keep healthy?

How does the dress and hair of the sailor in the picture on page 170 differ from that of a sailor of to-day?

What did Cook hope to find south of Australia? Was he successful?

George Washington.*Pages 172-178.*

1. How did Washington live when he was surveying Lord Fairfax's estates?
2. How did Washington spend his time when he lived at Mount Vernon?
3. Why did the colonists and the British fight against each other?
4. Why are Americans proud of George Washington?

David Livingstone.*Pages 178-185.*

1. Tell what you can about the dresses worn by the people in the picture on page 179. Compare them with those in the pictures on page 9, page 109, and page 151.
2. Find on a map the Zambezi River and the Victoria Falls.
3. Describe how Livingstone first saw the Victoria Falls.
4. Act the scene in which Stanley meets Livingstone.

Captain Scott.*Pages 186-192.*

1. Imagine yourself one of Captain Scott's party. Describe one of your days.
2. Who was the first man to reach the South Pole?
3. What happened on Scott's last expedition? How do we know?

How the World has become Small.*Pages 193-201.*

1. Who was an inventor of the railway engine?
2. How did people travel before there were railways?
3. What is meant by a telephone, a telegram, broadcasting?
4. Why does the world seem smaller to us than to our ancestors?

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